FOGHORN

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF **FOG**

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FOG has been formed as a users' group for all persons who use or are interested in portable computers. Membership is available to any interested party whether or not they currently own a computer. The ***FOGHORN*** is published monthly by FOG for its members. A subscription providing bulk mail delivery to an address in the U.S. is included with membership in FOG for $24.00 per year. See chart below for the additional postage required for other locations. Address all inquiries to FOG, P. O. Box 3474, Daly City, CA, 94015-0474. The Voice Phone is (415) 755-4140.

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Changes Noted in Prior Issues

The items in the list below have been changed since the FOG Membership Information brochures were mailed to most members. The month in the right hand column is the issue month in which the changes were published.

Submissions to the ***FOGHORN***	April, 1985
Submissions to the FOG Disk Library	April, 1985
Ordering Disks from FOG Library	June, 1985

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First Class Postage Rates

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Please help

It is essential that you include your account-membership number in all correspondence. ***Omitting your membership number will needlessly delay shipment of your order.*** It is not necessary to write a separate check for each different order. Consolidating your requests and sending only one check will save the staff considerable time.

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FROM THE FOG

Stand Up For Your Rights!

by Frank Morton

Have you seen page 100 of the June 3, 1985, issue of ***InfoWorld***? If not, you should look it up. It is the John C. Dvorak column, ***INSIDE TRACK***, entitled (for that issue) *The First Annual Newsletter Awards.* After covering current rumors or news as John sees it, he announces the winners of the "First Annual Dvorak Newsletter awards". With "over 300 newsletters" received, he judged the best "on the basis of looks, personality, honesty, and value." The intent was to give five gold medals for excellence. He named Reese Jones' ***BMUG Newsletter*** as the best Macintosh newsletter, ***Blue Notes*** from the San Francisco IBM PC Users Group as the best IBM newsletter, the ***Apple Library Users Group Newsletter***, published by Apple, as the best newsletter from a corporation, the ***CPA Micro Report*** (a commercial newsletter) as the best specialist newsletter, and ***Current Notes — The Newsletter for Atari Owners***, published by the Washington Area Atari Computer Enthusiasts.

After naming the above five, John included the following paragraph which I will quote in its entirety:

"Finally, the good old ***FOGHORN***, the 80-page monthly newsletter of the First Osborne Group ($24 per year, Box 3474, Daly City, CA 94015) gets the nod for the last gold medal. This is an example of what a NEARLY PERFECT USERS GROUP NEWSLETTER should be. It's typeset and crammed with solid information for Osborne users, CP/M users, and others. With nearly 20,000 subscribers, this is a fantastic newsletter with lots of reader support."

Needless to say, all of us were very pleasantly surprised; David Oates most of all! It is certainly nice to be recognized in one's own time.

Almost the same day I heard about this honor bestowed upon FOG, my wife told me ***InfoWorld*** had called me and would call back. I assumed (I get into more trouble making erroneous assumptions) that they were calling to get my reaction or to follow-up the "award" in some way. When ***InfoWorld*** did catch up with me, a few days later, it was someone in the circulation department wanting to know if I would like to take advantage of a special offer to renew my lapsed subscription.

I have had some doubts and reservations about renewing my subscription to ***InfoWorld*** due to some or all of the following reasons. (1) I had missed most of my first three months worth of issues due to the misspelling of my street name (it was printed on my application and my check.) (2) Peggy Watts took the time and trouble to spend a lot of time with the members of PRACSA at one of their meetings. The resulting article was not very flattering. (PRACSA is the group of SYSOPS who are working to convince the proper authorities that there are adult Bulletin Board operators who want to work with the system as civilized, law abiding citizens. We do not condone piracy or any other illegal activity.) (3) A recent article by John Dvorak used a wide brush to paint all SYSOPS as a bunch of children out to do whatever they want with no concern for legal or personal rights. (4) The issue of ***InfoWorld*** devoted to user groups, with the Boston Computer Society held up as an example of the biggest, if not the best, failed even to include FOG in the list of the many groups mentioned.

Finally, (5) like many of you who had subscribed to ***DataCast***, I chose to have the remainder of that subscription converted to an equal amount of ***InfoWorld*** issues. Of course that never came to pass. In fairness, that probably was not the fault of ***InfoWorld***, but it happened just before an unsuccessful attempt (due to a technicality) to get another ***InfoWorld*** subscription started.

Because of my general dissatisfaction with ***InfoWorld*** I have chosen, so far, not to renew my subscription, but instead to look for it on the newsstand, where I can decide, on an issue by issue basis, whether or not I feel it is worth purchasing. It has one advantage; being weekly, it is timely. Unfortunately, I have had difficulty finding it on newsstands, even in Silicon Valley where computer related magazines and newsletters abound. This is a puzzle to me.

Meanwhile several new, very useful publications have become available. ***Computer Currents*** is now in its third year of publication. The ***Answer Woman***, a regular feature from Miriam Liskin, has been quite good. Now Ms. Liskin is writing a second feature in the ***dBASE Corner***. I had the pleasure of meeting Miriam when she was a speaker at the East Bay FOG meeting. She is charming and knowledgeable. ***Computer Currents*** comes out twice a month and is FREE at many newsstands.

The people from BAM Publications, Inc., are in their second volume of ***MicroTimes***, another FREE publication. It appears once a month. It too has a lot of useful and interesting articles directed towards the computer user. Like ***Computer Currents***, they actively support Users Groups with the listing of notices and meeting schedules. Although both of these publications are free (***MicroTimes*** even brings the latest issue to the East Bay FOG meetings) they have enough useful content that I am seriously considering subscripting, so I won't miss an issue.

It may seem like I have rambled away from the subject, "stand up for your rights", so let me tie it in for you. When the gentleman from ***InfoWorld*** called, he didn't want to listen to any of the reasons or concerns I had about ***InfoWorld*** and why I may or may not want to renew my subscription. He only wanted to know if I would renew or not so that he could get on to the next phone call. For his job that is proper, because that is what his job is; to sign up renewals. I finally realized I was complaining to the wrong person. I should have written a letter to the editor, several times in the past, telling what I thought about his publication and things I didn't like about it.

⇨

I have heard others talking about what they don't like about ***InfoWorld*** or other publications. What they/we need to do is tell the publications instead of, or in addition to, each other! Naturally, positive feedback is also very desirable when trying to influence a publication.

When the question of FOG supporting MS-DOS came up, many of you responded that there are many supporting MS-DOS, and too few who seem to care about CP/M anymore. More than one indicated that they are counting on FOG to continue to champion the cause of CP/M. Believe me, as long as I (and Gale and Byron and etc.) are involved in FOG we WILL champion the cause of CP/M whether we also help FOG members with MS-DOS problems or not. The point is we cannot do it all alone. If you really care about CP/M not getting lost by the wayside, YOU need to champion the cause. In addition to telling us, tell other publications! Write letters to their editors. Let them and the rest of the world know that there are a LOT of people who use, like, and are interested in more good software for CP/M users! This is what I mean by "stand up for your rights!"

Whether Popular Computing Inc., (the publisher) realizes it or not ***InfoWorld*** was instrumental in the formation of FOG. It was in there that I first learned of Adam's plan to introduce his new computer at the West Coast Computer Faire. This happened just as I was about to purchase a Heath H89 kit. So if we have gripes, complaints, or compliments to make, or if we need CP/M software, we ALL (myself included) need to let our needs and wishes be known. So again I say "Stand up for your rights." You (we) are the buying public and probably still the largest established computer user base in the world!

[I never got my ***DataCast*** *sub. commuted over to* ***InfoWorld*** *either; even after sending two letters (that may have been a Jim Warren problem (?), but the circulation people could have answered my letters). But, except for* ***FOGHORN*** *and several dozen newsletters,* ***InfoWorld*** *is the only publication that I read from cover to cover. I have seen a considerable improvement in the last few months and I have heard a rumor that it is going back to a tabloid format. That's OK; just makes it harder to store. I say "Thanks, John" for the gold, even for #6 out of 5. I'll take it. That really made my day! David]*

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FOG *does not endorse any of the products advertised in this publication. FOG does not verify the accuracy of the claims in any of the ads. You should thoroughly investigate any offers before buying.*

Please let FOG know of any difficulties encountered. Send all details, ***in writing****, to the FOG office at P. O. Box 3474, Daly City, CA, 94015-0474, U.S.A.. We can't promise a solution, but we will try to help.*

All articles contained in these pages are the views of the authors. Publication does not necessarily indicate endorsement by FOG, the ***FOGHORN****, or any of the officers.*

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CORRECTION

Correction

The SuperCalc 2 hint on page 16 of the February, 1985 issue of ***FOGHORN*** needs a little extra help — I know because I'm the dummy that forgot. Please don't beat me "MASSA".

In order for this hint to work — the (L=Change page length) in the Setup mode must be set to 0 (continuous form).

Since I have mine set to 0 (continuous form) as a default state, it was pretty easy to forget — for me.

Also the area that you designate in the Arrange command need only be 1 empty cell.

Forgiven?

Daniel DeWitt
Hastings, NE

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Correction

In the June 1985 issue of the ***FOGHORN***, there was an article reviewing two modems titled, *Report of Two 2400 Baud Modems; Penril 2024 and USR Courier 2400* by Sigi Kluger. A preproduction unit of the US Robotics Courier was tested to write the review and since then, the problems he mentioned have been fixed. There are many sysops using this modem.

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LETTERS

Dear *FOGHORN* and K. Vasuderan

I thought you might be interested in printing the following letter from me to K. Vasuderan in the *FOGHORN*. I would like you to print it because the letter celebrates the sheer pleasure your users' group can provide.

I sent TELEPHON.BAS in over a year ago, and I was amazed when I saw that you had accepted it and actually put it on a disk. Mr. Vasuderan's letter explaining his improvements and enclosing a listing was like two inches of butter icing on the cake.

One thing the term "hacker" has always implied to me is amateurism in the best sense. When even non-programmer types like me can do something for the sheer pleasure of it and then find that their work is useful to others, we've got something vital and important going on. FOG deserves all the credit for making it possible.

K. Vasuderan:

You cannot imagine the joy your letter and listing have given me.

I'm an English teacher by training and, right now, a public relations person by profession. I wrote TELEPHON to fill a need (I'm constantly learning new telephone numbers and needing to find old ones), but my main reason for doing it was my desire to learn how to handle files in BASIC. I sent it to FOG sure that it would be rejected.

Now that you've made it into a truly respectable program, others will use it, and (as I've been telling my uncomprehending colleagues) I will become a footnote in hacker history. Nothing short of a full-page spread on The College of Wooster in the "New York Times" could make me happier.

I've had it in the back of my mind that what TELEPHON really needs to be is a COM file written in PASCAL. But I don't know PASCAL, yet, and, the way my job is going now, the chances of putting together the time to learn are dim. Several students who work with me and who also hack have told me that Turbo is a dream to work with. If you know it, or are interested in learning it, I think the project would be a worthy one. Then, I could get the program and its files on my WordStar/MITE disk and record and look up numbers without changing disks in my Exec.

Please accept my thanks. That someone who obviously knows what he's doing would actually preserve my logic (my logic!) is glory indeed.

Peter Havholm
Wooster, OH

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TRA 80/100 Column Upgrade

For the most part, whenever I read letters in this column dealing with equipment purchased from outside suppliers, the context is generally critical of the equipment, service, or follow-up. Once in a great while, I do find someone writing for the opposite reasons. That is the purpose of this letter, regardless of the fact it is almost a year overdue.

Last year I purchased the TRA 80/100 column upgrade for my double density O-1 from Research Associates Inc, [Forest Hill, Dunstable, MA 01827, (617) 649-6912]. While dealing with Bernie DeNatle, the inventor and marketer, I was assured that if I were not completely satisfied I would be entitled to a full 100% refund.

When I received the unit, I found that it not only was simple to install into my system (complete external connections only) but also that it did perform as advertised. The only hidden surprises were desirable features I probably didn't hear about when the unit was described to me.

Unfortunately, within a week, the unit stopped working. I immediately called Mr. DeNatle who suggested I ship the unit back. I received, by return shipment, the unit in working condition. It seems that I was the first purchaser who had a fuse blow.

The quick response I received from Mr. DeNatle was appreciated. Needless to say, as I am preparing this letter one year later, the unit has not failed to perform once since the initial problem. I am extremely pleased with the performance of the TRA 80-100 column conversion and will gladly recommend it to anyone.

Daniel J. Chupinsky
Farmington Hills, MI

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Help Wanted: Hackers!

I frequently write to share solutions I've discovered to computing problems. Now it's my turn to CRY FOR HELP! All you hackers out there — can you help me?

(1) WordStar 3.3 "Phantom" Characters

On WordStar 3.3, the "Phantom" characters ^PF (press the control key with the keys P and F) and ^PG are supposed to send a string of up to three bytes that can be installed by the user through WINSTALL. This sounded great; WordStar needs more user patches to control printer functions, and I was going to install these to do italics, emphasized printing, etc.

I installed them per the WINSTALL menus, but guess what: nothing happened! Phantom Space ^PF still prints a space (20h), while Phantom Rubout ^PG still sends a "Delete" character (7Fh) to the printer exactly as they did in WordStar version 2.2.

I checked with EDFILE and DU, and the strings I installed are right there in WS.COM. Only, they aren't sent to the printer!

I would have thought this was a bug in just one copy of WordStar, but I found the SAME thing with both the 8-bit WordStar 3.3 that came with the Osborne Vixen and also with the 16-bit CP/M-86 WordStar 3.32, my employer bought for the DEC Rainbow I use at work.

Does anybody out there know (a) what's wrong, (b) how to fix it?

(2) New Utility Needed!

Any fool like me can use such magnificent utilities as DU, EDFILE, FILTER and so on. Hardly anyone, it seems, can write them. So I'm pleading with those who know how to create a new utility just for me and thousands like me.

What's needed is a short program that sits in high memory and intercepts any output intended for the printer, sending it to a disk file instead (or in addition). This way, the output of various programs that print graphics could be captured, and turned into stand-alone .COM files that would print specific graphics (company logos, for example) without loading the whole graphics program.

If and when anyone has such a program working, please send it to the FOG library, and also to me! I can be reached at (604) 434-7739. It would be best if it worked on all CP/M computers, but I'll settle for something that runs on an Osborne 1.

Alan Chattaway

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Dear *FOGHORN*

I have been a member of FOG for about a year and a half. I never fail to get some kind of help from every ***FOGHORN*** I receive; therefore, I would like to make a small contribution and hope that someone can use the information. I first bought an O-1 about 2 1/2 years ago. My parents now use it in their business and I now have an Executive which I use mainly in my job as a high school science teacher.

I use WordStar to store all my test files, notes, worksheets, and handouts. I use MailMerge to print deficiency slips containing students name, grade, reasons for deficiency, and recommendations. I have the special function keys programmed with ten common reasons for ease of updating files. I use SuperCalc to store and calculate grades. I created a file for each class which looks like my gradebook and use the EXECUTE command to print out a summary sheet with code numbers and grades for 6 classes which is posted for my students. I am just learning dBASE II and will use it for storing inventories and other information.

I often carry my Executive back and forth to work and found the disk storage pocket would not hold all the disks I needed to carry. I solved this problem by attaching a ten disk plastic storage case to the outside of the Ozzie case with hook and loop fasteners from Radio Shack. I positioned the storage case over the monitor so when I open it while using my Ozzie, it puts the disks facing me in a handy place. Closed, it allows me to carry ten extra disks. I can also remove and reattach the storage case easily if needed because of the hook and loop fasteners.

Before closing, I have a question for anybody who has expertise in this area. Is it possible to connect a third disk drive through the RS232 port on the Executive? I would be interested in connecting another 5 1/4 inch drive, or better yet, an 8 inch drive (DSDD?) for more storage space. I have no experience with assembly language so if this sort of programming is necessary, I will need a lot of help.

Mike Gossett
Box 275
Van Buren, MO 63965

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Finland Wants SmartKey

reprinted with permission from the author, Arto Kytohonka

Software Research Technologies, Inc.
3757 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 211
Los Angeles, CA 90010

Dear Mr. Reid Griffin,

"What is more valuable than your time!"

Thank you for offering a new SmartKey. Sad to say I don't dare to send you the order nor the money, and the reason you can see underneath. As a popular columnist in ***Mikro*** and ***Tietoviikko*** magazines here in Finland, I would like to praise your truly practical & highly all-purpose SmartKey, because it still makes me glad every day I use it in my work as a writer, publisher, and 'freelance editor.

But it looks like you do not exist. No answers ever.

Two years ago I praised highly the SmartKey II in ***Tietokone*** magazine just to get afterwards a lot of disappointed complaints from the Finnish computerists and software dealers:

> "How did you get the SmartKey. That company seems not to sell its software in Europe."

Meanwhile I asked you, and tried to buy the book ***Screen Smarts***, but haven't got so far even a note.

But the SmartKey is something else. No kidding, but even if, pardon me, Software Research Technologies seems to lack SmartManners, I still plan to write a new article about the benefits of SmartKey, XtraKey and other softkey software in those big Finnish computer papers.

So, dear President, maybe you would like to help me by sending me "The Smart Screen" and giving me the newest information about your updated Smart-products, some hints about the many uses of SmartKey, et cetera (also would you please tell me what would be the price of SmartKey II Plus with S/H to Finland.).

Arto Kytohonka
Hikia, Finland

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Have a Contribution?

Please refer to the ***FOG Membership Information*** brochure (which is sent to each member with the FOG membership card) for information about submitting material to the ***FOGHORN*** or to the disk library.

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Replies to Issues Raised in May 1985 Issue

The arrival of a new ***FOGHORN*** still brings everything else to a grinding halt here. However, once in a while the wheel gets reinvented, and sometimes the ***FOGHORN*** covers the story all over again. Here are a few items I noticed in the May ***FOGHORN***:

(1) Page 7: Alfred Post updated my January article by noting that using **TYPE** with **^P** will print a WordStar file with the dot commands "showing". However, on Epson-type printers, this makes the final character of each word print in italics. The best way (not discovered by me!) is to print from WordStar the usual way, but answer "Y" to the question "Suppress Print Formatting?"

(2) Alfred also made the excellent suggestion of keeping a master document for frequently used correspondence, copying it with WordStar's "O" command to create a working document each time, then editing the new working document. A faster way is to open the new (empty) working document first, then ^KR (read in) the master document into it.

(3) Page 9, J. Otto Tennant asks if WordStar can justify lines containing double-wide printing. No, because WordStar doesn't know how wide (or narrow) your printer prints for ^PA. For the simple case of double-wide, the only way is to count the number of double-wide characters (spaces included), move the right margin leftward that amount, do a **^B^QP** on that line, restore the original right margin (fastest way is to do **^OF** on the line ABOVE), then move to the line BELOW the wide characters and do a **^B** there.

(4) Page 13, Bob Carter rediscovered the use of a toolbox for storing floppies; this was in the ***FOGHORN*** a long time ago! These toolboxes are 6 inches square at the ends, and come in various lengths; if you stack your disks in them sideways (like sliced bread), they can hold up to 120 disks easily!

(5) Page 15, Bob Thomson created a NEWMENU file to describe his WordStar installation. EDFILE will let him type this directly into the file WSMSGS.OVR so it becomes part of WordStar itself! EDFILE is no harder than WordStar to use, probably easier; ask for help at your local FOG affiliated group.

(6) Page 24, David Gerrold describing "Free Software" mentions a "revised PIP which allows you to reset a disk drive without having to hit ^C". This program (RPIP) was once in the FOG library but was removed after Digital Research pointed out it was not a new program but a small patch to PIP, which is proprietary software! Many of the other free programs described as costing $12 to $15 per disk are already in the FOG library, available truly free at your local FOG group or for $4 from FOG (see Page 2 of the ***FOGHORN***).

(7) Page 34, Jerry Boyce's article on installing WordStar with EDFILE was identical to his previous article on Page 35 of the January issue!

(8) Page 51, Jerry Boyce admirably explained the difference between WordStar (D)ocument and (N)on-document files. However, for the poor budding hacker who has written his whole assembler program in the Document mode and can't assemble it, there's no real problem: just use the (Z)ap option of PIP, as follows:

```
A> PIP B:NONDOC.FIL=DOCUMENT.FIL[Z]↵
```

Or you can load it into the VDO editor (available in the FOG library) and then save it again. That fixes it faster than anything else, and also gives you a chance to clean up any other stray characters that shouldn't be in the file, before saving it.

(9) Page 62, Frank Heasley described transferring Osborne WordStar files to the DecMate II by wire. We have the same equipment, and found the fastest way was to buy Dec's optional CP/M 2.2 board for the DecMate II. As well as its own quad-density format, this board can read (but not write) Dec's old VT-180 "Robin" format. DD Osbornes (except those with altered ROM's or BIOS's, such as Nuevo's) can directly read and write the VT-180 format, and with Stuart Isto's DFORMAT from the FOG library (or Media Master) can even format disks to be VT-180 disks!

The DecMate II CP/M board comes with WPSCONV to move ASCII text files between CP/M disks and its own special format called "WPS". Used on WordStar files, this conversion makes all soft returns into hard ones, hence the DecMate II can't reformat or justify the file without extensive manual editing. To fix this I wrote a filter program WS-WPS to preconvert WordStar before running WPSCONV; this solved all our problems. If anyone with a DecMate II and the CP/M option would like this filter, I will send it free on receipt of two floppies plus suitable packaging and enough return postage. The new DecMate III also has a CP/M option, and the same techniques should apply there.

(10) Page 66, S. Cunningham described how he/she sent a "DEL" character when communicating with a VAX. I don't know the situation, but why wouldn't it work to just type the "delete" character directly? On the Osborne 1 you do this by holding down both **CTRL** and **SHIFT** and then typing the ***?*** key.

This article mentions MYTERM. Users should note that MYTERM includes a menu for "unwanted characters" to be filtered out, and on my copy, the default setting included the "DEL" character. So presumably it would not be sent unless the user reconfigured this menu.

Alan Chattaway
6666 Arlington Street
Vancouver, B.C.
V5S 3N9 Canada

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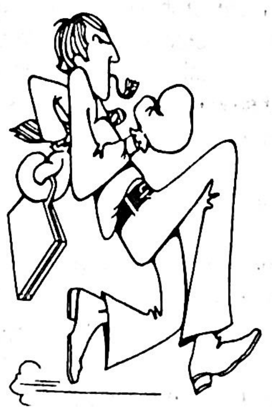

A Smaller WSMSG.OVR

I thought space conscious readers either of the single density or double density persuasion might be interested in my serendipitous discovery. While trying to place WordStar and its overlay files in two user areas at once so I could PIP only certain files from the separate user area to a separate disk I manually copied the directory information to empty space but changed the first byte which is 00 for user 0 (the ordinary situation), 01 for user 1, 0F for user 15, and e5 for erased to 01 from 00. Since the remaining information was the same, that is where the files were located, no additional space would be allocated. Each directory entry pointed to the same exact location on the disk. This can confuse XDIR, SWEEP, etc. but that's their problem since at least now the file could be used from two different user areas. I have now learned there are programs which do this but if I had used them I would have never had made the fortuitous mistake now to be described.

I miscopied the second part of WSMSGS.OVR's directory entry. I actually left it out entirely but WordStar worked. I only discovered this error as I did an XDIR and found WSMSGS.OVR was 14K instead of its disk eating 30K. What the . . . is going on, I exclaimed. Why was WordStar working properly when over half of one of its files was missing. Well as others have indicated the message file in not truly necessary; only helpful. The key to this situation was that I accidently eliminated those Help Screens called from the J Menu. I rarely if ever used them and all other usual messages remained operative. Now that I discovered the cause of my amazement, why not clear up and clean up the error.

I did. By zeroing (00) out the Help screen information with Hex 00 when the J menu choices are called you get the @@@ prompt indicating something's amiss with the message overlays but then it just comes back to editing mode with nary a blink or halt. So truncating the file just after the really helpful messages (I still like to be prompted) actually allows a savings of 13K leaving a 17K file. Think of it, NSWEEP, DUU, and PIP can be placed on the disk instead.

How to. Not for the weak of heart but not all that difficult. Remember using only a BACKUP copy use either DUU or SUPERZAP and get to the file directory. It will generally look like this:

```
 Hex Values   ASCII (English!)

0057534D 53475320 204F5652 00000080 .WSMSGS  OVR....
8E8F9091 92939495 96979899 9A9B9C9D ................

0057534D 53475320 204F5652 0100006B .WSMSGS  OVR...k
9E9FA0A1 A2A3A4A5 A6A7A8A9 AAAB0000 ................
```

The first line is generally the file name and tells the size, 80 hex sectors. The second line indicates where (what allocation group) the file is located on the disk. The 3rd line indicates that all the information could not be shown in the first entry and WSMSGS.OVR has more information (a 2nd extent). So again the name, the 01 just following, shows its the next extent and has 6B hex sectors. The fourth line again shows where the remainder of the file is located.

It was in copying the 3rd and 4th lines that I goofed (?). I left them out. While they could be zeroed out in the directory it would not be exactly clean and some messages which only show infrequently would be zapped. So I surgically operated after examining the file's contents.

Leave the first entry (lines 1 and 2) alone. But change 3 and 4 as follows:

```
0057534D 53475320 204F5652 01000005 .WSMSGS  OVR...k
9E000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 ................
```

Note the 6B at the end of line 3 has been changed to indicate 5 hex sectors, a considerable decrease, and line 4 now indicates that 9E is the only space allocated to the second part of WSMSGS.OVR.

You can actually clean up the last sector of the file so that no help screen or partial help screen ever comes up. Again using DUU or SZAP go to the last sector of the file which looks like the following:

```
652E2000 202A2A2A 20574152 4E494E47          e. . *** WARNING
More hex characters here .........           : Specified .EF
.................................            not found. ...**
.................................            ***  Print Direc
.................................            tives  *****..
.................................            . PRINT CON
.................................            TROL CHARACTERS
.................................            may be entered a
```

and zero out everything after the space (hex 20) following the word 'found'. Do the same for any other sectors which fill out the allocation group.

```
652E2000 202A2A2A 20574152 4E494E47          e. . *** WARNING
More hex characters here .........           : Specified .EF
...................642E2000 00000000         not found. .....
etc 00000000000.....................         ................
.................................            ................
```

That's it. Oh, serendipity? Look it up!

Fred J. Kaufman
Seattle, WA

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Help!

Does anyone know how to change the system tracks so the boot up has 0003 set to 54? This I presently have to do with STAT PUN:=PTP: and RDR:=PTR: or by using PK 0003=54.

Misc:

The database of ***Portable Companion*** articles on FOG/MIS.023 can easily be read into dBASE. Just create a file having structure as in PORTABLE.HDR and append from the unsqueezed (LOVE THAT NS!) using the SQF option.

That's all for now! Please keep up the good work!

Conrad Stenton
Midland, Ontario
Canada

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Dear David

First, lots of praise for keeping the ***FOGHORN*** running. Thought I'd just ramble a bit and pass on some things that happened to me with my Osborne 1, tan case, unmodified, in the hopes these comments may save someone else the same difficulties. Since it looks like everyone is using dBASE II and WordStar, there are separate letters concerning those two utilities.

But first, my complaint! In the Oct. '84, ***FOGHORN***, Osborne Computer Corporation offered for sale an Osborne Executive with two 200K byte disk drives, a Z80A running CP/M Plus, WordStar, SuperCalc, MBASIC, CBASIC, Personal Pearl and UCSD Pascal, for $1445.

In the Nov. '84, ***FOGHORN***, Osborne Computer Corporation offered an Osborne Vixen with two-400K byte disk drives, a Z80A running CP/M Plus *[no Plus. Ed]*, WordStar, SuperCalc2, MBASIC, Desolation, Media Master, Osboard and TurnKey Plus a one-year, membership in FOG, for $1298.

In the Dec. '84, ***FOGHORN***, Drive C offered the same thing Osborne offered in Oct., for $947, documenting the $498 loss, that those people who took advantage of Osborne's October offer, realized. Of all the people to take advantage of, I am quite angry Osborne picked FOG members. End of complaint.

Story: I bought my Osborne 1 in March, 1983, in Germany, and have been running it ever since on 220v 50hz. Very shortly after I got it, I started having problems with drive B. Normally, after working a half-hour or so on a really great WordStar file, the right hand drive just stopped being productive. I never recovered a file. Sometimes booting the right drive worked, sometimes it didn't. I returned it to Osborne Munich which replaced the B drive with a new one and returned it. Two weeks later — same problem. Other Osborne owners suggested I buy a fan. I figured if the computer needed a fan it should have come with one. Finally, I found an Osborne repairman in Saarbruecken, Germany and took the computer in. He opened it up, pried up the big chips (I don't know what they were, but they weren't memory chips), and stuck them back in. He then stuck a hair dryer in by the disk drive turned it on, and booted some test utility in drive A. This test utility simply had drive B read and write every track, then go back and start over. We watched it run for 15 minutes. It never malfunctioned then, and has never since. It still doesn't have a fan.

Notice: ***FOGHORN's*** are not forwarded by the Post Office! If you're moving, everything else catches up, ***FOGHORN's*** don't! We move a lot, so I just grab a stack of change of address cards, and every time something comes in to my new address with my old address on it, I fill out a card. Good theory. Mail from non-profit organizations are apparently not forwarded.

There seems to be a lot of discussion about lap top computers. Nobody seems to know what the customer wants. Here's what I want:

Briefcase-size with 24 x 80 screen, no function keys, no keypad, no disk drives. Built in modem, 5 megabyte 'non-volatile memory with Memory Operating System. Battery operated. Available accessories: printer, battery powered n x 24 matrix, regular paper. Intelligent disk drive, 5 1/4". Appears to computer as another computer, speaking over a modem. Only function of disk drive is to allow uploading software into memory, or making copies. Normal method of purchasing software is by modem. Software and documentation will be purchased together. Most practical accessory: tape drive for backups. Cost of computer: <$2000, other accessories, less than $400 each.

My all-time favorite program: QuickCode (Fox & Geller, $140 to $195). This program writes dBASE II code. You've probably heard the old saw that 80% of the programming will take 20% of the time, while the remaining 20% of the program will take 80% of the time. QuickCode reduces the first 80% to almost no time at all. It works very simply: take a blank screen and write all over it. Example:

```
Name: ;name
Address: ;address
City: ;city
State: ;state
Zip Code: ;zip
```

Hit ^B (control B), and you find QuickCode has identified 5 variables, each is a character variable, and the length is from the semicolon to the right side of the screen. You can edit the variable length. The most powerful feature is the edit. You can specify minimum and maximum input, default input, a short list which includes all possible inputs, or specify a lookup table. You can also specify how you want it indexed. Press ^B again and your screen returns. Press <ESC>. QuickCode now writes about 10 dBASE II programs. After about 4 minutes of whirring and clacking, QuickCode has just about filled up a diskette. Reboot the computer. Type **DBASE <name>**, where <name> is the name you gave the QuickCode screen. QuickCode has written all the code to: Index, Add, Change, Delete and create normal dBASE II reports, all within a command shell. All adds and changes are edited following the rules you gave it. If you specified a lookup table, you must create one, however, just have QuickCode do it.

I recently developed a system for the US Air Forces in Europe to track all requirements for storage, all storage available, and all storage being used in Europe. The system uses 7 dBASE II databases. It was ready for data loading in 5 hours. There is only one bug in QuickCode that I know of. It passes on a dBASE II bug: when PACKing an INDEXed file, the INDEX is not kept straight. Corrective action. Before packing, type:

```
USE <whatever>
PACK
INDEX ON <whatever> to filename
USE filename INDEX filename
```

(This just reindexes after packing.)

Funny, everyone seems so gung-ho about function keys. I only use them in WordStar. Somehow it's faster to type them than to figure out what they were.

Flippies: I get a terrible error rate. After losing something I wanted once, I converted my entire library back to unflipped. Figure I'm worth it.

Why doesn't someone invent a 5 MBYTE hard disk which plugs into something (anything) and works with any computer? Like a printer. Huh?

Why is the Trantor 10 mbyte hard disk $1495 when you can get 10 mbyte hard disks for other computers for $795?

Disk cleaning. Don't believe in it. Never have. If it ain't broke, don't fix it.

Best free utility: NSWEEP.

Point: while dBASE II can only handle two databases at a time, it switches pretty fast — fast enough that it is no longer a limiting factor. Now if we could just get the sucker to sort or index in a short time (like an hour) . . .

Next time ***FOGHORN*** publishes a list of products available, please decode these:

Osborne 1 Start Pac
OCC 1 D/D Bundled S/W
OCC 1 SD Blue Manual (mine is Black?)

Does anybody know how to get the OCC 1 to stop telling me a disk is R/O and just get reorganized and write on it?

Note to Alan T. Chattaway (***FOGHORN***, Jan. '85), *WordStar Workshop.* This reminds me of when I first programmed one function key to be seven ↩'s so I wouldn't have to answer every WordStar question. Alan, the easiest way to print all the dot commands is to simply answer the question "Suppress page formatting Y/N" with Y. Now, to reverse the tables, thank you for the information on 'wildcard in WordStar searches.

Regarding the OZROM 1E review (Jan. 85). Does the Ozrom 1E work with Nuevo Double Density and/or 80 col. mod? *[I'd say no. Those "mods" come with their own ROMs. David]*

What is a Lobo MAX-80?

Should FOG Change Its Name? (Feb. '85)? No.

WordStar tip: we use WordStar on several machines. Although the machines are compatible, the printers aren't. There isn't much point in customizing WordStar to print hieroglyphics if it prints the text in Chinese on your other printer (although there probably would be a market for this). Tip: don't use special control characters in the text — customize the program. Example: we make forms for some of our procedures. Forms are made using compressed print and 8 lines/inch. On the Epson, configure the WordStar version that drives it to print compressed. On the letter-quality, configure that WordStar to produce the same effect. Call the program WSFORM. Data files (documents) can be interchanged and printed properly without conversion.

What's a Zorba?

Thanks for listening!

Dan Connor
FPO, NY

[Dan, sounds like you should send some letters; OCC, WestWind, Postal Service, Micro Management, Nuevo Electronics — to name a few.

Briefcase computers: I want (wanted) an NEC PC 8401, but it must have been still-born. I saw the ad in the Spite Software catalogue, ***InfoWorld*** *reviewed it (and they only review products that are available in your store), I waited to see ads announcing it in my area — but nothing! If you don't advertise it and the customers can't find one to touch, I don't think you can sell any. David]*

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Dear *FOGHORN*

I've spent a good share of the last two weeks curled up with a yellow highlighter and a stack of back issues of the ***FOGHORN*** which I ordered from FOG. Not the same as curling up with a good western, murder mystery or gothic novel, I must admit, but many of the same elements were present:

a) an interesting plot — the rise and fall and resurrection of OCC
b) bad guys — Doug Hurst, Osmosis, MayDay Advice by Phone Service
c) good guys — Doug Hurst, John Gaudio, Gale Rhoades, David Oates, Nuevo Electronics, and many, many others too numerous to mention.
d) plenty of action — with prescriptions, patches and programs

Having that stack of ***FOGHORN***s on my bookshelf is like having a houseful of good friends who can nurture, console, and advise me, when dealing with my inscrutable DD OS1 becomes difficult or traumatic.

I followed Stephen Eckelkamp's (July 84) and Lee Morehead's (March 85) good advice and got an 80 column upgrade from Nuevo Electronics and am delighted with it! I didn't believe Lee's advice about getting the internal monitor installed for 80 columns instead of for 52 but my installation man rigged it up for me anyway and promised to change it at no charge if I didn't like it that way. Lee was absolutely right! I like it.

When I got a "disk full" error after spending much time typing and proofing Burt L. Fielding's program (Dec. '83, pg. 15) which converts US measurements into metric, I called Tom Davies and his son Hamilton (Aug. '84, pg. 13) to the rescue. For some reason their "Diskfull.fix" didn't work for me. I got a BDOS ERROR instead but, "Not to worry". P. Thomas Riley (Jan '84, pg. 19) provided me with a neat little SUBMIT program to get me out of that dilemma. Of course he couldn't have known that I have WordStar 3.3 and not 2.26, so his fix didn't work, but Dennis D. Embry (Sept. '84, pg.17) must have suspected. He was able to supply me with the proper number to put into P. Thomas's SUBMIT program and my day was saved! So thanks Stephen, Lee, Burt, Tom, Hamilton, P. Thomas, Dennis and all you others who reside on the pages of my ***FOGHORN***s — I don't know what I would do without you.

One question. I noticed in the *Lobo MAX-80 Library Notes, January 1985*, that on FOG/MAX.004 there was a library of routines and docs called RUSSIAN.LBR. Would these disks/programs work on the OS1? If not, is there anything similar available for the OS1 DD?

Barb Fay
Fairbanks, AK

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High Praise — A Letter to:

Ashton-Tate
10150 West Jefferson Boulevard
Culver City, CA 90230

It is standard practice to condemn software manufacturers whenever their customer support appears weak. It is therefore a pleasure for me to praise one whose support frankly surprised me.

Ever since purchasing the first of my three computers (an Osborne 1), I longed to use dBASE II. But until recently I could not justify its purchase. (I was NOT one of those who received it bundled as a Christmas gift with their Osborne).

Circumstances change, and recently I realized I was now ready for dBASE II. After diligent inquiry I found a former Osborne dealer offering the original Osborne version at a reduced price.

I wrote to Ashton-Tate asking if upgrades were available. Along with an order form, they sent a License Agreement. Most of the terms were standard, but one that stood out; it said, in part:

> UPDATES. If the version of dBASE II that you obtain from your vendor is not current as of the date of your receipt, Ashton-Tate will send you the latest version at no charge.

I could hardly believe it, so I telephoned Ashton-Tate. (After all, the dealer had already discounted it as "old stock".) Yes, they assured me: no charge to update to the current version; and to prove it, they sent a letter to be returned with proof of purchase and the serial number of the version I bought.

What can I say? This is support BEYOND the call of duty. All I can do is write this letter to thank Ashton-Tate publicly. Needless to say, I will have a warm feeling toward them when shopping for more software in future!

Alan Chattaway

[I did the same, during the early days of OCC's chapter 11, with a version 2.3 (no "b") that I bought for $156. Ashton-Tate provided the then current version (2.4), a complete manual, etc. David]

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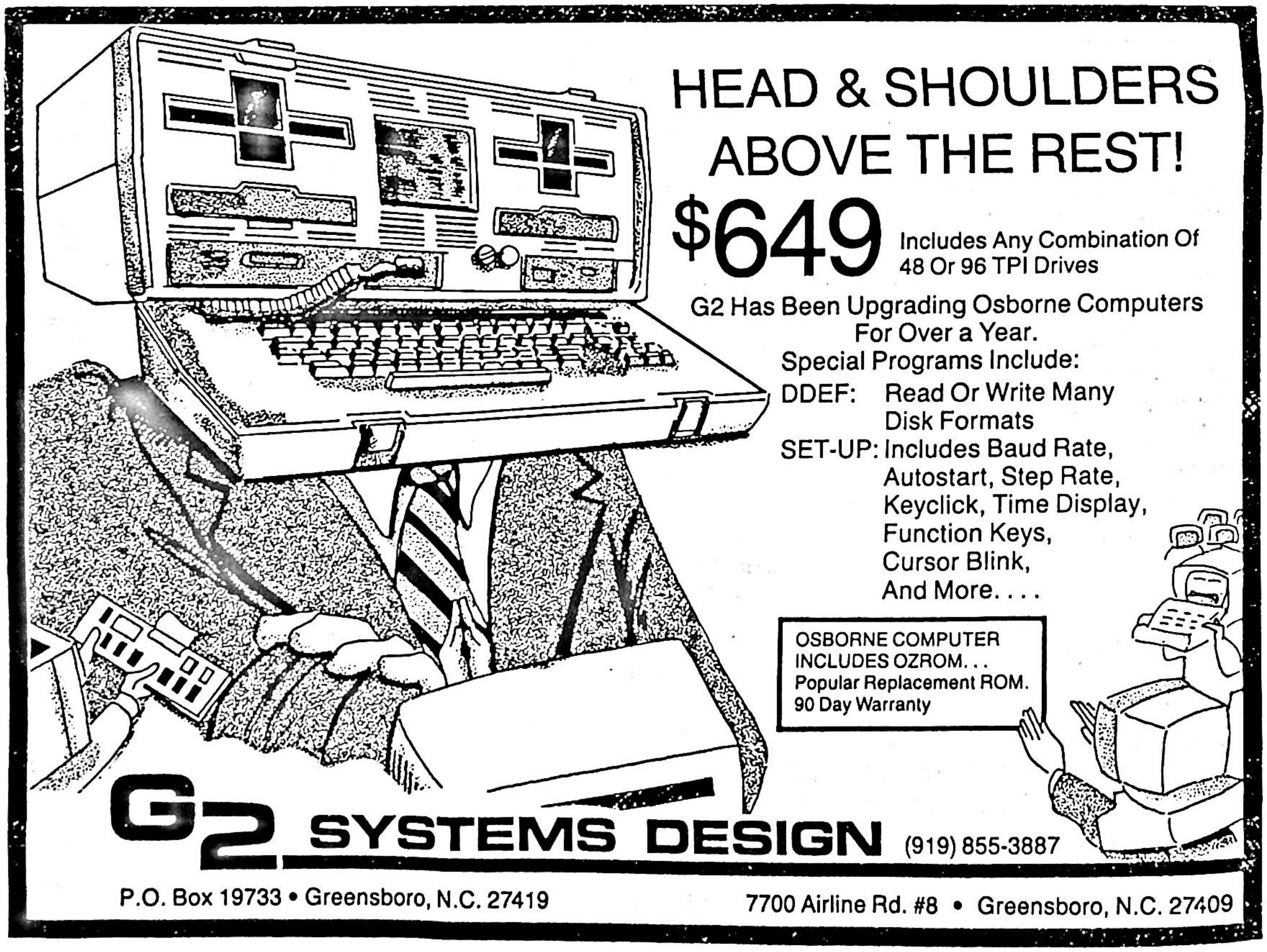

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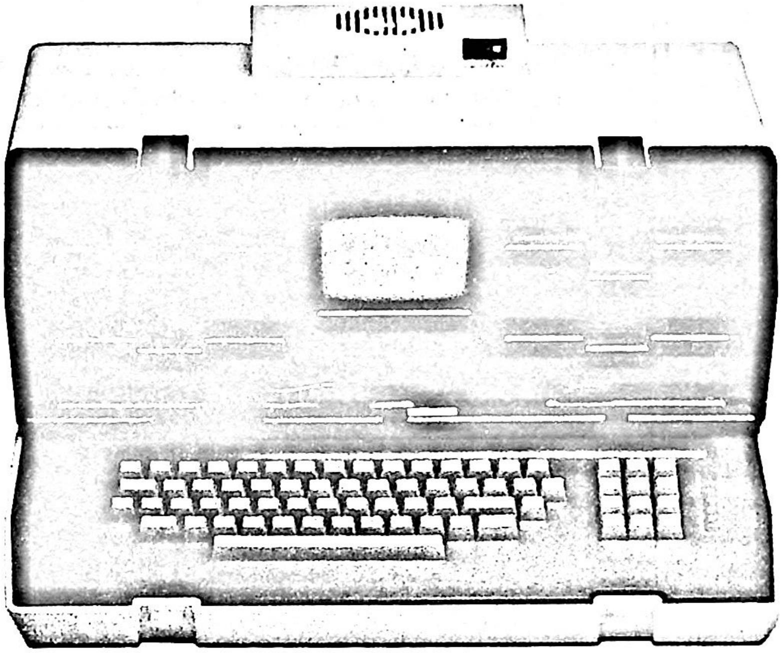

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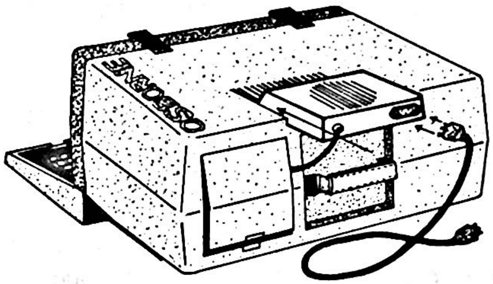

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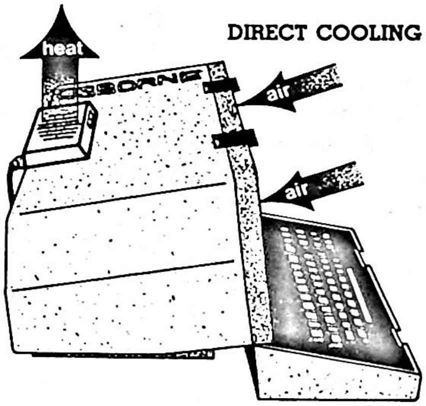

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TIPS FOR TYROS

MBASIC and WordStar

by Brian Dugle

I just read the April ***FOGHORN*** and found the short note from Gale Rhoades on *Why Didn't You Renew?* and her article, *MBASIC Programs in WordStar*, quite informative. I realized that I should have passed along my experiences on the subject long ago, but better late than never, they say. This article will describe some techniques for writing MBASIC program files with WordStar. It is intended for those of you who may be just beginning, but I expect you to know a little about using WordStar.

About two years ago I wrote a Masters thesis on my O-1, using WordStar. The subject was developing a computer scheduling and deconfliction algorithm, (an algorithm is a means to get a solution to a problem, a series of steps), so it was as much a programming exercise as writing. I used MicroSoft BASIC as the demonstration language because it was the only readily available (read no extra cost!) common denominator between my O-1 and the target Cromemco system. Anyway, I ended up writing most of the BASIC code using WordStar, not the MBASIC line editor.

If you have used WordStar for general word processing, you have been using the D or document mode. There is another mode entered with N (non-document), which is suitable for generating program files. There are many differences between these two modes, and many similarities. The ability to block move, search, search and replace, read files, and so on are all still there. These capabilities are the reason for my switch to writing programs with WordStar rather than the MBASIC line editor.

The N mode does not word wrap, provide variable tab positions, show a ruler line, or show page breaks. Of more significance, it uses straight ASCII (American Standard Code for Information Interchange) characters throughout. D mode uses the 'eighth bit' for some internal WordStar record keeping and results in non-ASCII files. The 8th bit refers to an extra bit position available in normal character storage, ASCII only requires seven bits to store each character or punctuation mark. WordStar uses the 8th bit to identify soft carriage returns, spaces added for justification, and so on.

So much for the differences. "What do I do?", you ask. I recommend that you set up a new disk with WordStar and MBASIC on it. You will need double density drives, but single density users are not out of luck. You will just have to swap disks a bit more. To set up one disk, gather a blank disk, your WordStar disk, MBASIC disk, and CP/M utilities disk.

First, insert the utilities disk in drive A and the new blank disk in drive B. Format the new disk with the COPY utility from the CP/M disk:

```
A> copy↩   (↩ means hit return key.)
```

You should be familiar with running COPY from backing up your original distribution disks, just follow the prompt messages. Format the disk in drive B, not A! Next, run PIP:

```
A> pip↩
```

This command loads PIP but does not tell it what to do. After the red light goes out, insert the WordStar disk in drive A. You should have a '*' prompt with the cursor waiting for a command. Type the following:

```
*b:=a:ws*.*[ov↩   ([ov means object-type file, verify)
```

PIP will respond by showing you each file name it finds as it copies the WordStar .COM, messages, and overlay files to your new disk. Next, put the MBASIC disk in drive A and type:

```
*b:=a:mbasic.com[v↩   ([v means verify, .COM files are auto-
                       matically treated as object-type files)
```

This will put MBASIC on your new disk. Finally, put the utilities disk back in and type:

```
*b:=a:autost.com[v↩
*b:=a:xdir.com[v↩
*b:=a:setup.com[v↩
*↩
```

In each case above I repeated the prompt character supplied by PIP, the '*'. You do not type it, start with the letter 'b' of each command. Now, at the '*' prompt just hit the return key or type ^C (control C) to get out of PIP.

The next thing is to put the CP/M system on the new disk. You have the utilities disk in drive A and the new disk in B, so run SYSGEN:

```
A> sysgen↩
```

The SYSGEN program will ask for the source drive, answer **a**. The destination, next, is **b**. The second time it asks for the destination, just answer with a ↩.

Now you have a new disk with both WordStar and MBASIC on it. Try it out by pressing the reset button, inserting the new disk in drive A, and then hitting ↩. You should get the big O from AUTOST followed by an XDIR display of what is on the disk.

At this point, I suggest you modify the copy of SETUP on the new disk *[to change the left arrow key from WordStar's ^S to CP/M's ^H]* according to the instructions in an article by Charles Goodman in ***FOGHORN***, Vol. II, number 11, page 19. I will repeat the bare bones of that mod here, using DDT instead of DU, in case you do not have DU yet. You should have CP/M utilities in drive A, your new disk in B:

```
A> ddt b:setup.com↩
DDT VERS 2.2
NEXT  PC
1700 0100
-s1327↩
```

```
1327 13 08↵ (Note! If 1327 is not '13', do not continue)
1328 1B .↵
-^C
A> save 22 b:setup.com↵
```

In words, the instructions above tell Ozzy to run DDT and load SETUP.COM from disk B. DDT responds with the '-' prompt after telling the next available address in memory and the current program counter value. You ask DDT to 'set' the byte at memory location 1327 (hex), it responds that the byte is 13 now and you change that to 08. (If it isn't, your version of SETUP is different from mine, so quit or use the reference article and DU to make the change!) 13 hex is ^S and 08 hex is ^H, the new value for the left arrow key. You only want to change one byte, so you exit the 'set' mode by entering a period to get back to the '-' prompt. You are done with the changes, so you use ^C to exit DDT. Finally, you save the changed program on disk B with CP/M's built-in SAVE command, specifying the number of pages to save in decimal.

The following is a side trip on how to compute the number of pages to save when given DDT's NEXT value in hex. If you did not patch the SETUP command with DDT and don't plan on using it for other patches, skip this part.

I computed 22 decimal from the NEXT value as follows:

1700 - 0100 = 1600 (0100 hex is where programs start in memory)

Round 1600 up to next even 00 (no change in this case) and drop the least significant byte (the 00). This is the number of 'pages' to be saved from memory to a disk file. Each page is 256 bytes (100 hex). Unfortunately, the number of pages is in hex, but the SAVE command wants it in decimal. Convert each digit to decimal, multiply by its place value, and sum the products.

Converting 16 hex to decimal, (1 x 16) + (6 x 1) = 22.

If the NEXT value had been 1C80, for another example, it would go like this:

1C80 - 0100 = 1B80
round up to 1C00
drop the 00 leaving 1C, and
convert to decimal (1 x 16) + (12 x 1) = 28 pages to save

(A through F have the decimal values 10 through 15 respectively, so 'C' became '12' for conversion to decimal.)

Note that in all cases except where you have a NEXT value ending in 00, just use the first two digits of the number under NEXT and convert to decimal. When the NEXT value ends in 00, subtract 1 from the first two digit value and convert.

One more example, this time the NEXT value is A280 (a big file):

A280 does not end in 00, so use A2
convert to decimal (10 x 16) + (2 x 1) = 162 pages to save

(This time 'A' had to be converted to '10' before multiplying by its place value, 16.)

End of side trip, back to the real subject. You do not need to make this change to SETUP, but I find it most useful when switching back and forth between WordStar and MBASIC, and that is why we are here! Now, when you use this version of SETUP and chose the WordStar arrow keys, the left arrow will be ^H instead of ^S.

Now use SETUP (new version if you made the change above) and set up some special function keys (SFKs). I recommend one 'rmbasic↵' and another 'system↵', for reasons we will be getting to, and you may want 'ws↵' also. Make sure you specify WordStar arrow keys. If you have a patched version of WordStar that puts in its own arrow keys automatically, forget the exercise above, it will not help.

The reason we want ^H instead of ^S for the left arrow key is that WordStar does not care (both are treated the same in WordStar), but the MBASIC editor will not erase or backspace with a ^S. You will find during program debugging that this arrow key setup is handy when making small changes with MBASIC's editor.

You now have a disk with both WS and MBASIC on it and with some SFKs programmed.

The next part is a bit about MBASIC program files. As Gale mentioned in her article, MBASIC automatically adds the extension '.BAS' to filenames when you save a program. So, when you start a program with WordStar, you must either use '.BAS' in the filename or if your extension is something else, tell MBASIC explicitly what that filename extension is. There is another difference, too, MBASIC normally saves a 'tokenized' version of the program. WordStar cannot read this type file. To save an ASCII version of a program you must add ',A' to the save command from MBASIC (this is different from the CP/M save command):

```
save "B:PROGNAME",A
```

This will result in saving PROGNAME.BAS on drive B in ASCII. This file may then be edited with WordStar by pressing N at the no file or not editing menu, and entering the filename 'progname.bas' when prompted (assumes default drive B this time).

If you have done some programming with MBASIC's line editor and some word crunching with WordStar, then the benefits of using WordStar should be obvious. There are just a couple more tricks to think about, though. These will make it easier to move back and forth between the two, which is one reason for having both on the same disk.

Let us say you want to clear the screen, move the cursor to screen center, and print 'HI!'. Put your new disk in drive A, press **reset** and ↵. Now you have a nice disk directory showing, use that 'ws↵' SFK to get WordStar running. Press **n** to go to non-document mode and enter **hi.bas** as the filename. Type in the following program:

```
100 cr$ = chr$(13): esc$ = chr$(27): cls$ = chr$(26)
110 def fncrsr$(y%,x%) = cr$ + esc$ + ''='' + chr$(y%+31) ^P^J
    + chr$(x%+31)
120 print cls$;
130 wid% = 52: hite% = 24
140 hi$ = ''HI!''
150 print fncrsr$( hite%/2, (wid%-len(hi$)) / 2 ); hi$;
160 end
```

⇨

Save this file with a ^Kd. Now to run it, press the SFK that you defined as 'rmbasic↵'. This will ask WordStar to run a program, MBASIC in this case. You will get MBASIC's 'ok' prompt in a few seconds, then load "**HI**".

If you are not fortunate enough to have double density drives, just press **r** [at WordStar's "editing no file" menu] and wait for the red light to go out. Now replace the WordStar disk in drive A with the MBASIC disk.

LIST the program, it should look just about the same except that variables and key words will now be in caps. Run it. Did it work? In any case, save it in ASCII as described earlier.

Now press that other SFK, 'system↵'. You will get a message saying to hit any key to return to WordStar. If you had to change disks before, now is the time to change back. Now press **n** again, then ^**R**. Like magic, WordStar remembers your filename for you! Now press ↵ to edit the program file. If you get about three lines of gibberish at the top of the screen, you forgot the ',A' at the end of your SAVE command.

Notice now that your program file looks like it did under MBASIC, that is all caps, but there is an extra line in the DEF FNCRSR$ statement. If you can see the WordStar end of line codes, you will see some '<'s like normal and a 'J' and an '-' at the DEF FN statement. '<' means the line ends in a normal chr$(13) chr$(10) pair, that is a carriage return character followed immediately by a line feed character. 'J' means there is a chr$(10) (^J or line feed) with no preceding chr$(13) (^M or carriage return) and '-' means chr$(13) is not followed by chr$(10). All that just because they are in the wrong order!

The ^P^J in the listing above caused a line feed (^J) to be put in the file. MBASIC allows you to continue a logical line (one line number) on another physical line (a new line on screen or listing) if you end the line with a line feed. That is how we continued the DEF FN routine on another line. When we saved the file in MBASIC, it added a chr$(13) (^M) after the chr$(10) (^J) that we put in.

You are not required to do this, but it can make your programs a bit prettier. If you just keep typing, MBASIC will use the default screen width (usually 80) to cause a jump to the next line, but it might be in the middle of a word or wherever it falls. While in MBASIC, by the way, you can jump to a new line with just a ^J key, the ^P prefix is only for WordStar.

A few words about this little program. It obviously does not do much, but I hope it is instructive. I like to name constants like ASCII characters at the beginning. The DEF FN statement is a handy way to reduce program complexity when a small computation will be required in several locations, but with different arguments. In this case, I defined a cursor positioning function.

The function is of type string (the name ends with a '$') and takes two integer parameters. These are the row, or Y, and column, or X, values of the desired cursor position. Ozzy understands a sequence of 'escape', '=', 'row + 32', 'col + 32' as a request to move the cursor to that row and column. In typical computer fashion, the row and column numbers start from zero instead of one, so we adjusted the offsets down by one. Now when we want to move the cursor somewhere, we PRINT FNCRSR$(row, col), using constants or expressions in place of the row and column parameters.

Now you may be asking, why start with a 'CR$'? Well, MBASIC counts characters that it sends to the screen and sends a cr-lf pair every 80 characters or so. It doesn't understand direct cursor addressing as starting a new line, so I'll tell it explicitly. If you have no need for the wrapping feature at any other place in your program, you can turn it off with a WIDTH 255 statement near the beginning of your program instead.

Let's do one more thing. Tell WordStar to change all occurrences of 'Y%' to 'row%', and change 'X%' to 'col%'. ^Qa tells WS to do a search and replace. Answer the find question with 'Y%' and the replace with question with 'row%'. We could have other variables that end in 'Y%', so answer options with 'ngw' for without asking, global, and whole words only. Do the same for 'X%' to 'col%', and look at the program.

This is a small example of what WordStar can do that MBASIC cannot. Others include moving blocks of statements around (^Kv), reading in library routines (^Kr), and saving pieces of a program (^Kw). You may also find block copy (^Kc) handy for repeated code that requires only small changes in its new location.

I'll save some goodies for next time, like automatic line numbering. This should be enough to get you started using WordStar for writing MBASIC programs. Try it, I think you will like it!

[I can't help but mention using VDO.COM in place of WordStar, especially if you have single density drives. VDO uses much less space that WS yet works like a mini WS. The latest version that I have, VDO25A.COM, is about 8K, older versions are smaller. (For the Osborne 1, get VDO2A from FOG/UTL.041; for the Executive, get VDE-2C from FOG/EX1.023; for the Vixen, get VDO-23VX from FOG/VIX.001; and for the Kaypro, get VDO-KP from FOG/KAY.001). David]

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SuperCalc Tip

by Daniel J. Chupinsky

Would you like to create a spreadsheet that will allow you to enter information such as shown below and have the amounts paid for various categories automatically extended to the proper columns? Here is a little trick that will do it for you. I developed this when doing tax templates with SuperCalc 2.

		Clothing	Food	Utilities
1 Richman Brothers	99.95	99.95		
2 A&P	34.56		34.56	
3 AT&T	17.55			17.55
2 John's Meats	23.68		23.68	
3 Consumer's Power	44.92			44.92
2 Joe's Bakery	12.03		12.03	
1 Sears Roebuck	27.84	27.84		
1 Pendelton Shops	54.71	54.71		
	315.24	182.50	70.27	62.47

Begin by entering SuperCalc or SuperCalc 2 and format columns A, B, and C as follows:

cont. on page 18

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- o SKEYS allows you to change arrow & function keys or call up any of 4 additional sets of function keys!
- o SKEYS adds 22 more redefinable, programmable function keys, EACH of which can have up to 255 characters, PLUS commenting capability, and can call other function keys in turn! Think of the many computing/printing/modeming chores that you will be able to automate! (Trig functions, for instance, can be programmed.) These definable keys can also be used for taking quick notes! You don't need a separate key definition program!
- o SKEYS has TWO calculators, a programmer's hex/decimal/binary/octal mode, and a standard "business" calculator, with 2 memories and a "paper tape" display! By redefining keys, SKEYS can emulate any calculator you've ever owned! And, the results of calculations can be output at the cursor position at any time from within any program in decimal, hex, binary or octal! (Great for programming, spreadsheets and word processing!)
- o SKEYS allows you to redefine any key on the keyboard to be any other key; create a Dvorak layout (supplied with SKEYS), or any custom layout you wish! (All changes made using SKEYS may, of course, be saved to disk.)
- o SKEYS provides a true "print screen" command and cursor type/keyclick change!
- o SKEYS has a memory–typewriter mode for typing envelopes or quick notes without exiting your current program!
- o SKEYS includes a real–time memory editor in decimal, hex, binary, octal, or ASCII, including all banks of CP/M 3, the ROM (read only), the ROM's RAM and the video RAM! (Great for hacking or software debugging!)
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cont. from page 16

Column A is set to Integer with a width of 3 or 4 as appropriate for your needs.

Column B is set to a width sufficient to accommodate the names which you will enter.

Column C is used to enter amount paid to the various entries in column B.

[Column D and on, should fit the category names that will be in ROW 1. David]

Your spreadsheet should now look like this:

```
1 Richman Brothers        99.95
2 A&P                     34.56
3 AT&T                    17.55
2 John's Meats            23.68
3 Consumer's Power        44.92
2 Joe's Bakery            12.03
1 Sears Roebuck           27.84
1 Pendelton Shops         54.71
```

The next step is to enter the following formula in Row 2, Column D:

IF(A2=1,C2,0)

and in Row 1, Column E:

IF(A2=2,C2,0)

and in Row 1 Column F:

IF(A2=3,C2,0)

and continue this.

You should be getting the idea now. You can continue filling Columns G through whatever by merely checking to see what value is in column A and copying the value from Column C to the column desired. If the proper value is not in Column A, then a zero will be entered.

Now replicate D2 through the end (I'll assume column F) by the formula: /R,D2:F2,D3:D8↵. Suddenly, your spreadsheet looks like this:

```
                                 Clothing   Food  Utilities
1 Richman Brothers        99.95     99.95    .00       .00
2 A&P                     34.56       .00  34.56       .00
3 AT&T                    17.55       .00    .00     17.55
2 John's Meats            23.68       .00  23.68       .00
3 Consumer's Power        44.92       .00    .00     44.92
2 Joe's Bakery            12.03       .00  12.03       .00
1 Sears Roebuck           27.84     27.84    .00       .00
1 Pendelton Shops         54.71     54.71    .00       .00
```

Touch it up slightly by calculating the sums of the columns and you are almost near the sheet at the beginning of this tip. To eliminate the unsightly appearances of .00, I use the "blank on zero" format option of SuperCalc 2. Without this feature in SuperCalc, you can get the same effect by modifying the formulae to read: IF(A2=1,C2," ").

Here's hoping that some of the FOG readers will find this tip useful.

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WordStar Made Ridiculously Simple

by Alan T. Chattaway

These short notes are written to make one simple point: Anyone can use WordStar, even you. Although it is one of the most powerful word processing programs for microcomputers, it's not difficult to learn the basics and start using it today.

These notes assume you're using a version of WordStar that's properly installed for your computer and your printer, although the features and commands described here should work the same way on any computer.

1. Computer Operating Systems

All I'm going to say about computers at this point is that they consist of three parts you can see and one, the most important, that you can't see. You're sitting in front of:

a. A keyboard — much like a typewriter.
b. A screen — often called the "terminal" or "CRT".
c. A "system unit" — a big box with an on-off switch that's wired to the other parts and has two slots called "disk drives" (usually referred to as "A" and "B") into which you put "floppy disks" on which programs, text and other data may be stored.
d. An OPERATING SYSTEM — in this case I'm assuming yours is the one called CP/M ("control program for microprocessors") — which is the set of instructions that make all that "hardware" work together as a computer.

Where is the operating system? If your computer is turned off, there isn't one! When the computer is off, its "memory" forgets **everything**. When you switch it on, all it can do is ask you to start it — You'll see a message asking you to start from drive A or B (ignore the other choices). Now put a "system disk" (a disk with CP/M recorded on it) into drive A (ask someone to show you the right way to do this — it's quite critical!) and press **A**. CP/M will be copied from the disk into the computer's memory, and from now on it knows how to be a computer.

In some cases, you will now see a "directory" (list) of the "files" on that disk, followed by the "prompt" symbol "A>". Others will see only "A>". In either case, type **DIR** and press ↵ (↵ is RETURN or ENTER — it's the same key) — You can do this anytime you see the A> to get the directory.

What are files? Just as a filing cabinet contains papers in file folders, so a disk holds data in "files", each having a name. If you use WordStar to write a document, it will be stored in a disk file. WordStar itself (when not in use by you) is stored in another disk file, and so on.

(Skip the next paragraph if you already have a "formatted" disk to receive the documents and text you will be writing).

2. Formatting a New Disk

There should be a file named "FORMAT.COM" or "FORMAT.CMD" (.COM and .CMD mean "command" and indicates the file contains a program that can be given control of the computer to make it do a useful task). This prepares a brand new disk so the computer can "write" (record) data on it. Put a disk (usually a blank one; if not, remember, everything on the disk will be erased!) in drive B, type **FORMAT** (not the .COM or .CMD part!) and press ↵. The disk will turn (the red light will come on to show it's turning) and the program FORMAT.COM will be "loaded" — copied into the computer's memory. Just follow the instructions on the screen to format the disk in drive B. When you're finished, "exit" from the FORMAT program as it instructs you. You should see the A> prompt again; get the directory again and carry on!

3. Starting WordStar

One file you should see on the directory is called WS.COM or WS.CMD — that's WordStar! If you now type **WS** and press ↵ you'll make the computer "load" WordStar into its memory. Soon you'll see a "menu" — a list of commands you can give WordStar by typing one letter each. Below that will be the directory in a slightly different form, with maybe a few extra file names.

4. "Logging" the Disk Drive — How and Why

Look at the command list. You should see "L" which changes the "logged" disk drive (the drive holding the disk on which you will store whatever you write). Since WordStar is in drive A, the document disk must go in drive B; so put [or leave] your blank, formatted disk in drive B and type L. WordStar will tell you that A is currently the logged drive and ask you to type "letter, colon, ↵" to tell it which drive you want to log. Type **B** and press ↵ (the colon is no longer needed). The directory display will change, showing which files are on the new disk in drive B (none, if it's a newly formatted disk).

Note: ALWAYS LOG THE DRIVE AGAIN WHEN YOU CHANGE THE DISK or you will NOT be able to store your finished document. CP/M knows when you change disks, and won't write to one that wasn't logged; this is to save you from accidentally writing on the WRONG disk, destroying the files already there. But in saving you from that danger, CP/M also prevents you from storing the new work you've done — you could lose **hours** of work! Logging the drive tells CP/M you know what you're doing and really want to write to this new disk. So don't forget to log the drive!

5. Starting to Write (or Edit) a Document

Another command on the starting menu is "H" — this sets the level of "help" you will get. Type H and answer 3 when asked what level you want — it will return to the starting menu. Another command shown there is "D" — this "opens" a "Document" file so you can write or edit it. Most text should be written as a document.

Press **D** now. WordStar asks you for the document's name. Since you're starting a new document, type any name such as "TEST1" (up to 8 characters long). Press ↵ and the screen will change. A new menu will appear, describing all the commands available that can be typed with ONE "control character".

6. Control Characters and WordStar Commands

What's a control character? Well, now that you're actually writing, any letter or number you touch becomes part of the document. So to tell WordStar this is a command (not a letter), you hold down the control key ("CTRL") while pressing the letter representing your command. That gives about 26 commands, which is not enough. So WordStar uses control-J, -K, -O, -P, & -Q, (usually printed ^J, ^K, ^O, ^P, ^Q) to begin TWO-control-character commands. That gives about 150 commands; in addition, there are other commands that begin with a period (called "dot" commands).

The tremendous number of commands makes this one of the most powerful word processors you can get. It also makes some people think it's hard to learn WordStar, but actually you can begin very simply.

For example, if you've been actually doing what I've said up to now, just go ahead and type. A little block moving ahead of your words shows where the next letter will appear — it's called the "cursor" (Latin = "asker"). At the end of the line, just keep typing — WordStar will automatically "wrap" (move down) words to the next line if they are too long for the margins, and insert extra spaces to "justify" (straighten) the right margin. You press ↵ only at the end of **paragraphs** — not **lines**, because WordStar takes care of that itself.

If you never make mistakes, that's really all you'd need to learn about WordStar, but of course word processors were invented to allow corrections — big and small — so that's the next topic.

7. Making Small Corrections

You can keep typing forever as long as you don't make any mistakes. If, however, you leave out a letter, just move the cursor back there (using the four arrow keys to move around the screen). Check the top right of the screen. Does it say "INSERT ON"? (If not, type **^V** once and it will). Now just type the letter you forgot and it will be squeezed in between the others.

Your paragraph will look bumpy at the right because of the extra letter; press **^B** (remember, that's control B as described above) and the paragraph will be "reformed". That's two commands you already know! Now move back and continue typing. Whoops, a wrong letter! Press the **delete** or **rubout** key (**^?** also works on many systems) *[both ^- and ^? work on my Osborne 1. David]* and the LAST letter will vanish. That's 3 commands! What if the cursor is in the middle of a word and you want to take out the NEXT letter? Press **^G** to take out the letter the cursor is actually sitting on. That's 4 commands already — see how easy it is?

If you type **^V** again, you'll see "INSERT ON" go away. Now if you move the cursor on top of an existing word and type, the new word "overstrikes" (blots out) the old one. Try it!

To take out the word following the cursor, use **^T**. To take out a whole line, **^Y**. Try them on your test document. That's 6 commands so far and you're not having any problems so far.

When the document gets big, you'll want to move up and down by a whole screenful at a time. Try **^R** to go up and **^C** to go down. (R is at the top of the keyboard, C at the bottom). To go to the very top of your document, **^QR**, and to the bottom, **^QC**.

⇨

If the document is big enough to take more than 55 lines, WordStar draws a line across the screen and marks a "P" at the right to indicate it's starting a new page. (Pages automatically get numbered when you print the document).

8. Making Big Changes — Moving "BLOCKS" Around

If you want to move or copy a word, a phrase, a heading, a sentence or even several paragraphs or pages to some other place in this (or even in a different) document, WordStar can do it. First, though, you have to mark the material to be moved or copied as a "block".

Place the cursor on the first letter of the block and type **^KB**. A <B> will appear (the first letter of "BLOCK", which is why it marks the start of your block). Now move the cursor to the end of the block and then one letter further to the right, and type **^KK**. A <K> will appear (of course) and the block will be "highlighted" ["lowlighted" or underlined] on the screen. Now move the cursor to the place where you want to either move or copy the block, and type **^KV** (to moVe it) or **^KC** (to Copy it — you see how the mnemonics work?). Or you can delete it with ^KY (careful, you can never get it back!).

Should you want to include that block in another document later, type **^KW** (for Write) and you'll be asked for another file name. Think of a name (such as "BLOCK" — again, the limit is 8 characters), type it, and press ⮐. Your block will be copied into a separate file, from which it can be copied back into another document later.

To prove this, copy it back now. Put the cursor somewhere else in your document and type **^KR** (for Read). You'll be asked for the file name; give WordStar the same name you just used to save the block, and it will be copied back from that file into your document at the present location of the cursor.

If you can't remember the file name, this is a good time to learn how to see the directory while editing a file. Type **^KF** and the files on your logged disk will be listed at the top of the screen. **^KF** again will turn them off. (If you've followed this exercise carefully starting with a new disk, there will probably be only the one file that you saved).

9. Saving Your Document

It's a good idea to save your document to the disk from time to time. If there's a power cut, the computer forgets everything you've done, but the disk remembers the things you saved on it. Type **^KS^QP** (S for Save) to save the document onto the disk without ending the editing session. **^QP** returns you to your original position in the document (**^KS** by itself puts you at the beginning of the document).

When you've actually finished, type **^KD** (for Done) to save the document and go back to the starting menu. Or if you want to abandon the whole mess, type **^KQ** (for Quit) — this throws away the document and goes back to the starting menu. To save the document and get out of WordStar altogether, type **^KX** (for eXit).

10. Printing Your Document

Having saved the document to disk, you need to print it. Make sure the computer is plugged into a printer and both are turned on. Make sure there is paper and the printer is "on-line" (ready to go). Watch for flashing lights indicating something is not ready.

Start WordStar as before, until you get to the starting menu. Put your document disk in drive B and log that drive. Now press **P** (for Print) and WordStar will ask for the document's name. Type the name (I suggested TEST1 above, but use the name you actually gave your document), then DO NOT PRESS RETURN but instead press **ESC** (stands for "escape"). After a short pause to find the document, WordStar will print it on the printer.

To remove your printed document, make the printer eject the page — there may be a FORM FEED button, and it may work only when the printer is off-line. Remove your disks, turn off the equipment, and feel proud — you did it all by yourself!

Note that WordStar added a "page offset" (left margin) when it printed the document. Because of this, you can always leave the left margin where it is at column 1 when editing. In fact, you should not move the left margin unless a special document format calls for it.

11. Final Comments

Of course there is a LOT more to WordStar. The book ***WordStar Made Easy*** is quite good and not too expensive. Make use of the built-in help menus, especially the ^J menus which go on for several screen frames each and describe things in great detail. At the time of writing (May 1984) I've been using WordStar almost every day for nearly two years and I'm still learning about new features. So don't imagine that the one book I mentioned covers everything. The best approach is to think to yourself "what feature would I like?" and chances are, WordStar already has it.

When you are proficient in typing and reasonably good with WordStar you will find, as I have, that you use it as a tool to help you create the document — There's no more need to make rough copies by hand before typing; instead you start by writing "off the top of your head", then read it from the screen and revise it as you go. When you get to this point, your efficiency in writing reports, documents, etc., will shoot up. You will often find you can start a new document by copying an old one and making the necessary changes, rather than starting from scratch. That's a great time-saver!

Play with WordStar; you can't break anything, and it's a great way to learn. Try all the features and functions listed on all the menus. Join a user's group such as FOG where most of the members use WordStar; read its magazine and attend its meetings. If your WordStar disk has a file such as "PRINTER.TST" on it, print that, then look into the file and see how the special effects are done. You probably won't NEED another word processing program for many years to come!

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ARTICLES

Revision
Create and Use a Master Bibliographical File with SORT.COM

by Barbara Fay

Re: The above title in ***FOGHORN***, May '85, page 18.

John Weske, of the Smithsonian Institution gave me some ideas on how to improve the referenced system.

Instead of numbering the references in the Master Bibliography, prior to sorting, tag those needed with a character (like !) and they will sort to the top. Once the ! files have been blocked and written to a new file, WordStar's Find and Replace procedure can be used to get rid of the tag. That should mean less editing than going after 01, 02, 03, etc. in turn.

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John Gaudio is an electrical engineer holding two U.S. Patents on computer systems. He's been a consultant to Osborne Computer Corporation and continues to write for their magazine, the Portable Companion, Foghorn, Dog Bytes, and his own newsletter, the Survivor's Guide. Since 1981 he's been helping people get more from their Osborne Computers.

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BOOK REVIEWS

Executive Technical Manual

by Author Unknown

The Technical Manual for the Osborne Executive costs $125 plus tax and shipping. This review is written to help you evaluate your need for the Manual before spending that much money.

The Manual comes as five separate books, some loose-leaf and others bound. Volume A "Hardware and Software Fundamentals" expands on the "System Specifications" part of the Reference Manual. Its hundred pages does, indeed, go into greater depth than the 30 pages of the Reference Manual, but much of it covers the same ground. This volume provides a thorough introduction to the features of the Exec; it should have been part of the Reference Manual. The hardware and software aspects of the keyboard, ports, screen, and disk drives are described fully, where they are only outlined in the Reference Manual. Similarly, complete memory maps are included for all banks. This volume is a sort of introduction since the hardware aspects are covered in more detail in volume C and software aspects are fully revealed by the code in volume E.

Volume B is really DRI's CP/M Plus System Guide, retyped with a few editorial changes. The most interesting thing about it is the Osborne Copyright. You would think that DRI would object. It is a strange mixture of standard CP/M3 features, descriptions of CP/M3 facilities, like the "Time" BIOS call, that do not apply to the Exec, and special Exec features like a "TOROM" BIOS call that allows application programs to make use of in-ROM routines. The documentation of Exec specific features make it more valuable than the DRI manuals, but the reader must learn from other sources what is, and is not, applicable to the Exec.

Volume C "Hardware Design" is the beginning of the payoff. This contains full schematics of all boards and a description of how they operate. If you intend to maintain the Exec yourself, you need this volume. For the hardware hacker, there are plenty of hints on how to add more memory or double-sided drives. The latter seems to have been the design at one point. There is enough information here also to add or replace drives.

Volume D "Integrated Circuit Specification" goes along with volume C. This consists mainly of retyped manufacturers spec sheets, with a few remarks on the Exec application attached. It makes a convenient, but not absolutely necessary, adjunct to volume C. The schematics make no mention of revisions. I can only assume that the various version boards, mentioned in the ***FOGHORN***, at various times, reflect a similar schematic. I have not tried to see whether my Exec fully corresponds to the schematics.

Volume E contains the complete listing of the BIOS and ROM monitor code. This volume is reproduced directly from assembler listings to guarantee the absence of typos. The only way to understand some of the facilities of the Exec is through a study of this code. It includes processing of all I/O, location of various data structures only loosely identified in volume A, and the workings of IEEE I/O routines.

Volumes C and E are what you are really buying, the rest is useful, but hardly worth the price. If you intend to modify or maintain your Exec yourself, you need volumes C and D. If you are a hacker, at home in assembler, and wish to stretch the Exec beyond its routine capabilities, you need volume E. If you are neither of these, the Manual is not for you.

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HARDWARE REVIEWS

Travelling with the Osborne 4 Vixen

by Alan Chattaway

First Impressions and Critical Comments

Like many others, I chose my Osborne 1 for its price/performance ratio and excellent software bundle. Portability never entered my mind; but I soon discovered the advantages of a computer that was always there when I needed it.

Since then my Osborne 1 has been around quite a bit. But when travelling, I always missed my 12-inch monitor and readable 80-column display. So when my manager offered me the loan of his brand new Vixen for my next trip, I jumped at the chance. Was it really as fast as they say? Any hidden problems? Just how good was this new wonder?

After two weeks with the Vixen, here are my impressions:

(1) Portability

The weight claimed is just a few pounds lighter than the Osborne 1. However, after dashing through airports with both machines, I find the Vixen more comfortable to carry; even more so than my Samsonite briefcase, which was definitely NOT true for my Osborne 1. This is partly due to the Vixen's smoothly rounded plastic handle, and partly because the Vixen's smaller size puts the weight nearer the center, with less "rotational inertia" to fight.

The size is well within the airlines' carry-on limit; but it still won't fit under the aisle seat on smaller planes.

(2) Speed

Yes, it's true! Osborne has speeded up CP/M, especially the disk and screen operations. WordStar runs faster than on any other computer I've used under CP/M-80, CP/M-86 or MS-DOS — even those running at over 7MHz.

The Vixen also has a keyboard buffer (the Osborne 1 had none). This lets you keep typing, even when the software is not ready to accept your input; for example, while SuperCalc is saving a file, or WordStar is accessing its overlays. Most keyboard buffers seem to hold 10-20 keystrokes, but the Vixen buffer is so large I was unable to fill it!

The buffer greatly speeds things up, and may be the best single improvement in the Vixen; but watch out! Since all keys repeat automatically when held down, if you should (for example) hold down a cursor arrow key in SuperCalc, the buffer will quickly fill up with arrow keystrokes; the screen will then continue to scroll, long after you lift your finger! Similar things happen in other programs; it takes a little getting used to, but you quickly learn to live with it, and it's a small price to pay for the extra productivity.

⇨

(3) Software

Major software packages bundled with the Vixen include WordStar 3.3, MailMerge, SuperCalc2, and MBASIC — more than just good software, each is No. 1 or 2 in its class. What more can I say?

Bundled software specific to the Vixen includes Osboard, Desolation, Media Master and TurnKey. Osboard lets you draw free-form graphics using the Vixen's block graphics character set; its producers recently replaced it with a more powerful package, Rembrandt, which also creates business graphics from data files and can link graphics to make slide shows. Most users needing graphics will want to trade Osboard for Rembrandt.

Desolation is a graphics action game. It's fast and challenging; but people don't buy a business computer to play games — especially graphics ones. Osborne probably throws it in to demonstrate the ultimate limits of the Vixen's graphics.

Media Master is a program available for several computers allowing them to initialize, read and/or write disks in the formats of many other CP/M or MS-DOS computers. It allows easy data exchange with (for example) the IBM-PC. At least, it's supposed to; my Osborne 1 version seems to work fine, but this Vixen version had some bugs; more of that later.

Finally, TurnKey is a clever menu "shell" insulating novices from CP/M. When the Vixen is booted, TurnKey searches all batch (.SUB) files on the boot disk, and displays a numbered menu consisting of the first "comment" from each batch file. The user can execute the batch file just by typing its number. Thus, anyone able to write a .SUB file automatically updates the menu, without altering TurnKey itself; that's smart!

Taken together, this is just about the best software bundle in the business. You may want to add dBASE II, and of course there are four or five "essential" programs free in the FOG library (NSWEEP, UNERA, SORTDIR and so on) that every CP/M user needs.

(4) Human Factors

The Vixen is one of the nicest-looking portables there is, probably because it's a perfect scale model of those desktop computers having 12-inch screens and 8-inch drives. Closed, it's amazingly compact; open, it occupies so little desk space I was able to use it in a classroom. The sharp 7-inch amber monitor displays 80 columns and 24 lines just like the office models.

Everywhere I went, the Vixen drew raves — especially from experienced computer users. Several people with IBM PC's on their desks asked where they could buy one for their home — especially after learning that it came with much of the same software they were using at the office.

As on the Osborne 1, the Vixen's 10 user-defined keys can be programmed through the SETUP program. However, they can also be changed at any time, regardless of which program is running. This allows you, for example, to insert "Client Consultants Inc." into your documents repeatedly, just by typing ^6 (control six). This feature is missing from WordStar, so it's a welcome addition to the Vixen hardware.

As the disks store 390K each, you will doubtless have other software on the same system disk as WordStar; so it's a good thing you can also redefine the cursor keys any time to reflect either WordStar or CP/M usage.

You can print the screen contents at any time, even if your software doesn't support this, by a 2-key command. Unfortunately, if you're set up for a parallel printer and there isn't one attached, this command hangs up the system, requiring a reset. Also, it would have been much more useful had it offered you the chance to save the screen display as a text file.

The Vixen's plastic case is in the same colors as previous Osbornes, light and dark blue-grey. The colors are attractive but show dirt readily — and after all, this is a computer that will spend part of its life on the floors of airplanes and cars! (The best cleaner I know for plastic cabinets is Mennen Prop Skin Bracer, sold as a preelectric shave lotion at your drugstore; test it first because a few plastics are soluble!)

The Vixen's keyboard layout is standard office typewriter — except for the cursor keys. This layout was apparently chosen because it's available from several suppliers — good not only for Osborne, but also for the owner when replacement is needed. I found after two weeks, I no longer missed the number pad (except when entering data into spreadsheets), and had adjusted to the cursor key positions. However, I was still frequently hitting the "up" cursor key instead of the left Shift key, and because of the keyboard buffer, I could be typing several lines above the intended point before noticing this (I'm not a touch-typist).

Keyboard "feel" is very subjective, and in any case if there are really three suppliers, the one you buy may not be like the one I tested. I found it slightly inferior to the Oak keyboard used in some Osborne 1's, but quieter and perfectly acceptable.

The fan is commendably quiet. In a typical office, it's inaudible; in a quiet hotel room late at night, unobtrusive.

(5) Problems

New computers usually have a few problems. The Osborne 1 went through three or four revisions of the monitor ROM; the earliest IBM PC's couldn't add properly in BASIC. I found two significant problems with the Vixen, plus one sample defect — a small crack in the right side of the case — which would not affect other Vixens. The significant problems were:

(a) Failure to Boot

The Vixen is programmed to run drive A for a few seconds at power-up. If it finds a system disk, it boots from that disk. If it finds no disk at all, it displays the message "Insert Disk in Drive A and Press Return". However, if it finds a disk but that disk is not a system disk, it displays "Loading Error — Check Diskette".

The problem was, the Vixen fairly often (about once every 10 startups) failed to recognize its own system disks. This could usually be cured by repeatedly pressing the Reset button; eventually the drive would go "sproing" quietly inside, and boot. A faster cure was a firm slap on the top of the case while the drive was turning, which caused the same quiet "sproing" sound followed by a successful boot.

Another Vixen owner reported the same trouble, which persisted even after a warranty exchange of drive A. The problem is more embarrassing than serious, but it will have to be fixed; it seems to be a mechanical problem in this brand of drives. Since these are standard double-sided half-height drives, replacements should be easy to find. (I was subsequently informed that the problem was due to electromagnetic radiation from the CRT getting into the disk drives through unused screw holes provided for an alternate brand of disk drive. Existing machines are being cured by covering the spare holes with adhesive, solid copper tape, and new machines come with this already done.)

(b) Failures of Media Master

As far as I know, the Media Master I purchased for my Osborne 1 works fine. However, the version bundled with this Vixen had a number of problems; some were intermittent, while others were experimentally repeatable.

The intermittent problems were many and varied. For a whole afternoon I was unable to format any of the PC-DOS formats; the computer just hung up with the drive rotating but no head motion. The same formats had worked previously, and worked again later. Formatting a DEC VT-180 disk produced errors at the verification stage; a known good VT-180 disk would not log in. And so on. The fact that the problems came and went suggests they may be mechanical troubles in the drives, related to the occasional failure to boot. Of course, intermittent faults are the hardest to troubleshoot.

The repeatable problems must reflect bugs in Media Master itself. Transferring four WordStar files to a PC-DOS 2.0 disk resulted in only two files, with unrecognizable (and untypeable) names that included happy faces and other IBM graphics. When the same four files were transferred to PC-DOS 1.0 format all four names were correct, but the first file transferred to an empty disk was consistently missing its first page; I learned to transfer an unwanted file first, and then the "real" ones.

Bear in mind that this Vixen was from the first export shipment, serial number 1000274 (meaning #274 off the line). By the time you read this, all these problems may have been fixed.

(I was later told that Osborne made some last-minute updates to the Vixen's RAM, not realizing that this made it incompatible with the already-configured Media Master. New Vixens come with the corrected program, and existing ones are being updated.)

(6) Should You Buy One?

Ron Brown, the new president of Osborne Computer Corporation, remarked last fall that he felt Osborne's chances were better than most of the more than 120 firms making IBM clones, precisely because Osborne was not going to compete in saturated markets, but intended from now on to fill vacant niches.

The Vixen does exactly that. Compared to comparably-priced lap computers like the Tandy 200 and Epson Geneva, expensive portables like the Data General and HP-110, or the Apple IIc, the Vixen is a self-contained, "no-compromise" computer with two regular-size drives and a very readable CRT display, and without a briefcase full of loose parts such as power supply, cassette recorder, second drive, and LCD screen.

Compared to full-size office micros (IBM clones) the Vixen wins because it can be with you anywhere you may need it. And data from the Vixen can easily be transferred easily to the office computer on your return. I found I could do better than that; I used the Vixen to take minutes of meetings right at the meetings, then transferred the files to PC-DOS format and printed them the same day on the nearest IBM clone, usually in the same building or at the nearest computer store. The Vixen's small size made it much less obtrusive in a meeting than a full-size desktop computer.

You should buy the Vixen as your only machine if funds are tight; as a second machine if you have a similar or more powerful desktop unbuy the Vixen as your only machine if funds are tight; as a second machine if you have a similar or more powerful desktop unit at home or at work; or if you travel on business, and need the ability to read the display in your hotel room more than you need the ability to compute at 35,000 feet.

On the other hand if compact size and light weight are everything to you (they aren't to me, even when I travel) then the Vixen is not for you. Better look then at the Morrow Pivot, also known as the Osborne 3 (and as the Osborne Encore outside the USA) and the Data General. To my mind, these machines make too many compromises to be anything more than a third computer — and I can't afford three!

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HSC CO1686 Attached Resource Processor

by Ron Sutton

HSC CO1686 Attached Resource Processor
Hallock Systems Company, Inc.
262 East Main Street
Frankfort, New York 13340

Almost since becoming an Osborne owner (bug, nut?), my only sources of dissatisfaction have been, the lack of memory for SC & SC2 spreadsheets, and the disk drive activity and 'WAIT' intervals with WordStar. Last summer I noted an ad in the now defunct ***Microsystems*** magazine, which promised a cure, bringing the Osborne into the 16 bit world. This was from a company named Hallock Systems Company (HSC) in Frankfort, New York; the product was named the CO1686 ATTACHED RESOURCE PROCESSOR and was touted "For ANY Z80 Based System". There followed a list of almost all CP/M computers imaginable, including Osborne. The 'impressive features' include:

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This looked good, so I sent for the fact sheet. Receiving it, I found their statement that "prices start at $495" only too true; this would buy a 'bare bones board with 128K of memory, MS-DOS, RAM disk, and a manual. I finally opted for their M2 board at $695, which included 256K RAM, and a Memory Expansion Bus. Having absolutely no interest in MS-DOS, I ordered CP/M86 for another $205, a case with fan for $173, and a 1 year service package which included an extended warranty. Various other things like a disk formatting to Osborne D/D, shipping, and a credit card surcharge brought the total to $1320.89. I sent off a SuperCalc generated Purchase Order on August 20, 1984.

I received a big box, from HSC, in about two weeks. I found that I had not been charged the credit card surcharge; the total of HSC Invoice No. 20373 was 'only' $1283.00. On checking the contents, I found that while I had received manuals for MS-DOS (2) and CP/M86, the manual for the CO16 itself had not been shipped, nor had I received the CP/M86 disks. I called HSC, and ended up talking to Gordon Hight, who was friendly, helpful, and promised to rectify the shortcomings. Shortly, the manual and disks arrived; UPS had succeeded in mangling the CP/M86 disks!

Now the comedy of errors began. Like, I suspect, most Osborne owners, I had never opened the case. The HSC manual was very machine specific for the Kaypro; the only Osborne specific documentation received were some sheets on installing MS-DOS. At any rate after opening the case, and removing the motherboard, I couldn't find the Z80! Why NEC insisted on labeling their chip D780C-1 is beyond me. Neither the gray nor blue Osborne manuals were any help. Finally on pages 22-23 of ***The Osborne Portable Computer*** from Que (the book that I think prompted me to buy my first Osborne), I found a system board photograph, with a key to various components. Using this Z80 location, which turned out to be wrong, as a guide, I attempted to install the HSC Interface board; it would not fit under the power supply. I made another call to HSC and Gordon Hight, followed by a return of the Interface Board with a letter on September 21, detailing board and disk problems, and promising a ***FOGHORN*** review.

Meantime, while waiting for a revised Interface Board from HSC, I received a long delayed 80 Column Upgrade ordered from Nuevo Electronics. They had moved and were way behind with their shipments. The Nuevo Documentation gave the correct Z80 location. I put this kit aside, preferring to get the CO16 running first.

When I received the Interface Board back from HSC, it installed easily; I ran the cable half out the back, leaving the handle panel out, and reassembled the case. I connected the cable to the CO16, plugged it and the Osborne in, and booted up. The moment had arrived! The CO16 and EX16 programs produced:

"Error Message No. 1: Cannot Communicate with CO16 on assigned I/O Ports".

The RAMDSK.COM program locked up the computer, requiring a reset. Opening the Osborne again I checked the dip switches on the Interface Board; they were indeed set to 80 hex which HSC says is the only port available on the Osborne. After more unsuccessful testing, I made another call to Gordon Hight; he checked with the HSC engineering people, and promised revised software. I waited from October 15th, and finally received another set of MS-DOS and CP/M86 disks on November 5th. This set of disks included an Install program for MS-DOS, CP/M86 and Ramdisk programs, which also included a test routine. More 'Cannot Communicate . . .' error messages!

During the phone call following this failure, Gordon Hight suggested that I return the unit for checkout, saying that they had encountered some bad boards. He further said that they would Install the software using their Osborne. I accordingly opened my OS back up, removed the Interface Board, breaking a pin in the process, and replaced the Z80 as original. I wrote a cover letter, including the broken pin on the Interface Board; packed up the CO16, the Interface board with cables, my collection of HSC disks which amounted to quite a number by this time, and set off to stand in line at the Post Office on November 6th.

When I received the big box from UPS on Friday November 30, I had a 'this is it' feeling. I opened it up to find the CO16, that was all! No Software, No Interface Board! Gordon Hight had written a note on the bottom of my November 6 transmittal letter: "Your CO16 was installed on our OSBORNE 1 using Port Select 80. As for CP/M86 — this requires some work and we will forward CP/M86 to you as soon as it's ready. If you need assistance give me a call." Needless to say, I gave him a call; I was not my normal pleasant self. On Monday December 3rd, I received a UPS Next Day Air package containing yet another Interface Board, and another set of MS-DOS and CP/M86 disks. After the now familiar installation, I got another set of the same old error messages! On the ensuing call to Gordon Hight, he talked me through some test routines, and we tried another cable on the CO16 with no success. He suggested that I return the unit for either another checkout or for a refund. I said that if it came back this time, it was coming for good, and took this opportunity to ask WHY, when they had the unit, they had not checked out the unit, interface board and software together before shipping it back? He admitted they had made a mistake.

I made some more checks, the dip switches again, tried a couple of other I/O port assignments with strange results, but my heart wasn't in it. My belief in the CO16, and HSC's commitment to it and their customers, had disappeared, I think, when I opened the box after they'd had it, only to find they had not kept their promises. So I opened the case, once again, removed the CO16 Interface Board for the last time, and installed the Nuevo 80 Column Board. In contrast to my above experience, it worked like a charm. After I got WordStar reSYSGENed, I used it to write a last letter to HSC in 80 column splendor, as I am writing this now. Then once again, off to the Post Office, this time to fight the beginnings of the Christmas Rush.

The HSC CO1686 could be an important aid to Osborne owners, if it could be made to work. It would enable us to join the 16 bit world, have a large Ramdisk, and keep these ma-

cont. on page 30

ADVERTISEMENT ADVERTISEMENT

EXTRA . . . EXTRA . . . EXTRA . . . EXTRA . . .

According to leading publications, the PC market is in the midst of a fullblown shakeout. IBM, KAYPRO, OSBORNE and most other PC manufacturers are initiating cutbacks and layoffs due to slumping sales. Their increasing advertising dollar brings less & less results. At the same time sales for the ZORBA portable computer, the computer that is only advertised in a few choice periodicals and relies heavily on satisfied user testimonials, are showing a steady increase.

It's no secret, the public is learning what industrial users have known for years. That is: that for daily operation of word-processors, spreadsheets and databases, the trendy options are rarely used and the flashy machines that house them are really no faster, no more reliable and much more expensive.

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PORTABLE COMPUTER

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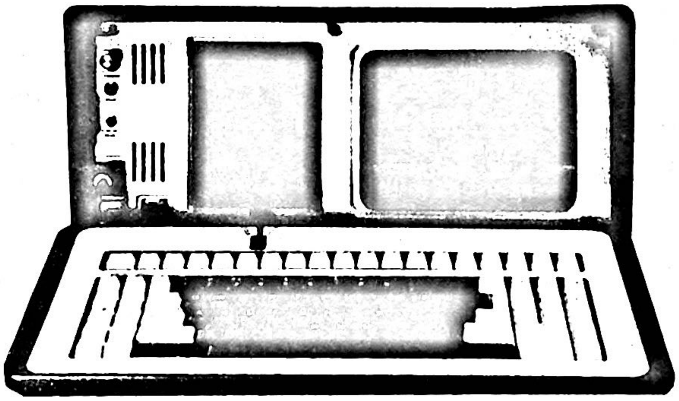
- DATA COMMUNICATION PORT



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DATA STAR, REPORTSTAR, CALCSTAR

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General Specifications

ZORBA is the lowest cost full featured portable computer. This light weight computer is ruggedly packaged in a convenient carrying case. The case surrounds a strong inner chassis which further protects the Z80A based computer with its two double sided double density disk 400K drives, large easy to read 9" display screen and well designed detachable keyboard.

ZORBA uses CP/M, the industry standard operating system, which means that a wide range of existing software is readily available to the user.

The ZORBA users manual covers operation of the unit, all supplied software and all interface and internal information. A system diskette is supplied with all system files and utilities. A second diskette contains the sources for all ZORBA software including BIOS, SETUP, FORMAT, and PATCH.

Keyboard

Keyboard communicates serially with CPU
Detachable with 2 foot coiled cord
95 keys in standard QWERTY format
13 Key Numeric pad
Independent Caps Lock and Shift Lock
55 Software programmable function keys
All keys auto-repeat after 1 second delay
All Standard cursor and terminal control keys

Disk System

Controller:	WD1793
Drives:	5.25 Double Sided, Double Density, 400K 48 TPI

Built-in disk interchange formats: Xerox 820 (SD, DD), Kaycomp (DD), DEC VT-180 (SD), Osborne (SD) and IBM-PC (eg. CPM/86) and Televideo 802 (Read/Write and Format compatibility) (Expandable to 82 Formats)

Specifications General Mechanical and Electrical

Width	-17.5 inches (44.45 cm)
Height	- 9.0 inches (22.86 cm)
Depth	-16.0 inches (40.64 cm)
Weight	-24.6 pounds (11.1 Kg)
Power	-80-130 VAC or 190-245 VAC 50/60 Hz 170 watts max

Display

Display Tube:
9" diagonal, Green or Amber
High resolution display circuitry
60 Hz refresh rate

Display Format:
25 lines x 80 columns
5x7 Character Font with full descenders
128 ASCII Characters
8x9 32 Characters Graphic Font
2K Memory Mapped Display Buffer

GEMINI ELECTRONICS, INC.
130 Baywood Avenue, Longwood, Florida 32750
305-830-8886 800-327-7182

CPU Board

Z80A CPU running at 4 Mhz with no wait states
64K bytes of 150 ns RAM (58K after CP/M loaded)
16K bytes of EPROM (2732) can be switched in and out by software 12K available for user EPROMS
8275 CRT controller, DMA driven
1793 Floppy disk controller, SMC data separator
Bipolar proms configure 10 addresses
Fully structured interrupts prioritized by bipolar proms

Interfaces

- Full asynchronous RS232 port with modem control. Baud rates and data translation and protocol programmable
- Full asynchronous full duplex RS232 port with hardware handshake (for printers). Baud rates and protocol programmable. (Serial Printer Port)
- One 8 Bit parallel port with independent strobe and ready lines. Supports Centronics interface with an available adaptor cable.
- IEEE 488 Bus Master Port (ie: General Purpose Instrumentation Bus) not Software Supported.
- 21 Standard Software Programmable Baud Rates: 45.5 to 19.200 BPS

cont. from page 28

chines running until we see which way the Computer world is headed. On the other hand, an optioned up unit approaches the price of something like a Sanyo 555. I don't know what the problem is, and apparently HSC doesn't either. They certainly tried to be helpful, except when they had the unit back and it really counted. I hope their Money Back guarantee works better than their unit did! Over the three months, I received an education in the inner works of the Osborne; the tuition was some rather large phone bills, and large amounts of frustration, both with the CO16, and in the lines at the Post Office.

[Drew Murphy, in his letter to the July '85, ***FOGHORN****, (*HSC Inc.'s Attached Resource Processor*) told us that HSC found the CO16 won't work with the 80 column Osborne 1. But, we can see that this was not Ron's problem. He had a 52 column machine and didn't install his Nuevo 80 column upgrade until after he had given up on HSC. David]*

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Drive C, Trantor Web, Trantor 10Mb Hard Disk With Comments on Xcomp 16Mb

by Stephen Eckelkamp

[Since this was written, Drive C and Trantor companies have become one; WestWind Computer]

Last spring I decided it was time to get a hard disk. I needed one for some dBASE II applications I was writing where the data files were too big to comfortably fit on 183K floppies, and the data manipulations were too slow to be practical with the large number of disk operations dBASE II requires for sorts and complicated command files.

I went through all my old issues of the ***Portable Companion***, ***FOGHORN***, ***Byte***, etc. looking for vendors who had manufactured hard disks for Osbornes. At that time, the only vendor advertising that I could find was Trantor, in the ***FOGHORN***, but I figured some of the earlier vendors might still be supporting Osborne but not advertising. I ended up with a choice between Trantor, Xcomp, Megabyte, Design One, and Sunol Systems. After a lot of phone calls and price/features comparisons, I decided to buy an Xcomp 16Mb hard disk because its price was as low as the 10Mb disks offered by the others and it was actually two 8Mb disks, one of which could be turned off with a switch on the front of the cabinet, protecting the turned of unit from head crashes and making backup a fast and simple operation of just copying everything from one drive to the other and then turning drive B off. Also they had a 30 day money back return privilege.

I ordered the disk and received it two months later. It required a piggyback board plugged into the Z-80 socket, which was difficult to install since I already had a Nuevo 80 column board plugged in there and the Xcomp board was too tall to fit. I had to modify the case on my O-1 to make it fit, but I finally got it in. It worked for about 60 seconds and then died. I took it out and my O-1 worked fine. A call to Xcomp and I was instructed to send back the Z-80 interface board. Three weeks later I received a new one. This one worked. However, every time there was a disk access, my screen display would shudder and jump all over the place, with out homing the screen at the end. This wasn't much of a problem with WordStar, which homes the screen with every entry, but was horrible with SuperCalc, which never homes the screen. I had to scroll my screen back to center after every '/' command. Besides this problem, the switch on the front of the disk wouldn't turn off the B drive as it was supposed to do, and the hard disk driver software took up almost 6K of my precious RAM instead of the 3K I had been told by the salesman so my larger spreadsheets would no longer fit. After waiting for two weeks while Xcomp tried to fix the software, I decided to return the unit. After a small hassle because by then I was way over the 30 day return privilege, they sent back my money.

By this time, prices on Trantor disks had dropped substantially, Trantor had added a parallel port to their unit so I wouldn't have to buy an adaptor, and I decided that I might want to set up a network, so I decided to buy a TurboPac from Drive C. I wanted the Drive C for the printer spooling and the promise of extra speed from the cache buffering.

There was a delay in shipping, as the parallel port option was new and not yet in stock, but about a month after ordering my TurboPac it came. All I had to do to get the unit operating was plug it in. The disk was already formatted and tested, and the software was already on the disk. I didn't have to take my O-1 apart as the Drive C plugged into the IEE-488 port and the hard disk plugged into the Drive C. Everything worked perfectly. I have been using it for six months and have never crashed the hard disk (the Xcomp crashed three times for unknown reasons in the short time I had it).

All my utilities still worked! (SmartKey, ManyKey, Findfile, etc). With the Xcomp, using little utility programs was a chancy thing. Many would crash to the opening screen display, just like pushing reset. SmartKey and ManyKey wouldn't work at all with the Xcomp. The Trantor supported everything I had been using.

The specifications for the Trantor 10 Mb hard disk indicated that it was a little slower than the Xcomp. However, it doesn't seem slower. In fact, a comparison of speed in sorting a large dBASE II file indicated that the Trantor plus Drive C was about 20% faster than the Xcomp.

Drive C has two functions that I find very useful: printer spooling and cache buffering of the hard disk. Printer spooling works extremely well, particularly when used with the CP/M utilities spool and unspool, with the print-while-editing option of WordStar, and with the ZCPR command 'List'. I should mention that the Trantor software includes the ZCPR modifications to the CCP portion of CP/M, which greatly improves the hard disk environment. Particularly nice are the 'LIST' to printer command, to send an ASCII file from disk to printer, and the set default user number 'DFU' command, which gives access to .COM files on another user number or drive without having to change to that user number. When background printing without Drive C, there was a periodic delay or key sluggishness while the disk was accessed. With Drive C, the file is always in Drive C's RAM, so sending data to the printer is almost instantaneous resulting in no noticeable degradation of data entry while printing.

As I mentioned above, the Cache buffering function of Drive C is a mixed bag. It is very fast when accessing .OVL files, e.g. the menus in WordStar and the '/'commands in SuperCalc. Since the whole file is kept in Drive C's ram, no disk operations are needed. It also promises to be a boon for SuperCalc files when they release their "virtual memory" version of SuperCalc2. However, it doesn't act as a true cache buffer when saving files. Instead, for every disk write it stores the file both to its RAM and to the hard disk.

A true cache buffer only performs write operations to the cache buffer's RAM, periodically saving the data to disk as a background operation or when a specific command is given to save the data to disk. Saving the data as a background operation is needed to help protect against loss of data if power is interrupted. However, this background operation requires a clock of some kind to ensure periodic saves. I don't know if the Osborne's BIOS could be modified to set up a timer for periodic saving of data, or if Drive C could be modified, but it would certainly speed up certain operations. Another improvement that would certainly be nice would be to make the cache buffer also work with the floppy disk drives. As it comes, it only caches the hard disk.

Besides the ZCPR modification to CP/M, the Drive C comes with a variety of software programs. In my experience, they work just as advertised. Most are just programs needed to operate the hard disk such as the file that modifies the Osborne's CP/M so it knows the hard disk is attached, and the hard disk formatting program to reformat in case of a serious crash. Also included is all of the Drive C software so it can be used by itself. I have never used any of the Drive C stand alone software.

Two programs included are worth commenting on in my estimation. "TSLCNFG.COM" is a program that enables you to partition the hard disk up to 16 different logical drives ("A" through "P"), and to set the minimum file sizes of 2, 4, 8, or 16K. These allocation blocks can be different for each logical drive.

The Archive program is for backing up the hard disk files. It creates a file on the floppy you are saving to so that it is like a combination of a library file and a squeezed file. It will also break up a file that is too large for your floppy and place it onto more than one floppy. It can later be reassembled by Archive into its original form. I rarely use Archive to back up my hard disk, as I find it to be extremely slow. Instead, I use the public domain utility NSWEEP. Archive is supposed to squeeze the files into smaller space by hooking them all together to eliminate unused portions of each block (like "library" files). Unless you have a large number of really tiny files, I don't think there is any material space savings on the floppies. NSWEEP is much faster and easier to use. I only use Archive to break up large files so they will fit my 183K floppies.

The Web

The reason I know how a cache buffer should work is that I also own a Trantor Web networking system, that I bought to use in my wife's store. The Web is a very nifty piece of equipment. It is a complete 64K Z80 computer (without console) that acts as a file server, printer controller, and cache buffer for its hard disk. Up to four computers of varying brands can be hooked up to it, and two serial printers and one parallel printer can also be hooked up. It has a built in, real time clock, which controls the cache buffer, periodically saving its contents to disk in the background. When only one user is on line, it is much faster than the Drive C's cache buffer of 384K minus the 128K printer buffer, even though this cache buffer is only the remaining space in the 64K Web memory (after the operating system and the hard disk directory are loaded). It doesn't have to write every file to the disk; they are saved only in the cache buffer. Since this cache buffer is so small, its benefit degrades rapidly if more than one user is working at the same time. In addition to the cache buffer and real time clock feature, the Web uses the hard disk as a printer spooler. You can send one file to printer A, immediately send another to printer B, and send another to printer C, and it will print them all simultaneously. If it receives more than one file for a printer, it automatically sets up a cue and keeps printing until it runs out of files and data to print. Any operator can send to any printer from any computer. In addition, a "local" printer can still be hooked up to each individual computer that can only be accessed by that computer.

The Web also supports password protection for access to the files on the hard disk. It doesn't seem to support individual file or user password protection, just overall access. It also includes a "mail" program that enables a user to send messages to other users. When the recipient logs onto the system, the Web automatically checks to see if there are any messages on the system for that user, and notifies the user if there are any. The Web also includes various other programs and utilities for its operation. In addition, it also comes with an even better ZCPR CCP modification than the Drive C TurboPac. The Web's ZCPR besides looking for .COM files on the default drive will also look for a second file following the .COM file on the default drive. This is a great convenience, particularly for library file operations since you can be in user 3 with the library file "command" on user 0 and just type "lrun setup" and it will go to user 0 and run "lrun", then stay in user 0 to access "command.lbr" to run the program "setup.com". Under the TurboPac's ZCPR, it would go to user 0 to run "lrun", but would come back to user 3 to look for "command.lbr", which wouldn't be there, so the command would cancel. I've written WestWind a letter asking for a patch to correct the TurboPac's CCP so that it works the same way as the Web's. My guess is that this inconsistency was overlooked when they wrote the software.

As far as user support, the only time I needed to contact them was when I first got my Web and couldn't figure out how to set the printer defaults. It turned out that the problem was that when I changed the defaults, I was forgetting about the cache buffer. The changes weren't immediately saved to the disk, and if I immediately tried to print a file, the Web would check the printer parameter file on the disk, but it wouldn't have been changed yet since the change was still in the cache

⇨

buffer. Yati suggested that I turn off the cache buffer when changing printer defaults, or that I issue a "flush" command to write all the cache buffer files to the disk before printing. After that everything worked perfectly. WestWind has been punctual and reliable, shipping my orders when they said they would. The products themselves seem well made and reliable, doing every thing advertised and more.

Overall, I'd say my 10Mb Trantor hard disk is an excellent product, extremely easy to install and use. The Web is superior to Drive C for use as a cache buffer when being used by only one user, since even though much smaller, it is much faster for saving files. It is also superior as a printer spooler since you can spool to more than one printer at the same time. Of course it costs twice as much as the Drive C. The Web also supports password protection, which Drive C does not. Drive C will be necessary to use the new Supersize SuperCalc, which will be a boon to spreadsheet users. I see in the most recent WestWind advertisements that you can now use Drive C with the Web. If this is the case, maybe it will be the best of all worlds with the Drive C holding the .ovl files for fast access, and the disk write operations being performed in the background by the Web's buffer system.

[I just received my Supersize SuperCalc, but I haven't tried it yet. More about that later. David]

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Nuevo Electronics: Great Products and Great Service

by Douglas Clark

Early in April 1985, I purchased the Nuevo four-by-four upgrade for my blue Osborne 1. The tan Osborne can also be upgraded. This small company has GREAT products and has treated me with excellent service in a friendly manner. Every Osborne owner can expect to be more than pleased to do business with the folks at Nuevo Electronics in Arlington, Texas. I hope that they develop additional products that I may buy in the future.

The 4x4 upgrade replaces both your A and B disk drives and provides 780K of space on EACH disk (total 1560K). These disk drives have 96-tracks-per-inch versus the 48-tracks-per-inch of the original Osborne 1, and BOTH sides of the diskettes are used (yes, double-sided / quad density as are the IBM-AT and Zenith 150). Osborne single and double density are supported.

Also, for less than the typical price of a replacement drive, I got Nuevo's third (external) drive with its own power supply. This 3rd drive holds 360K (double sided, double density).

See any recent issue of the ***FOGHORN*** for current prices and options. Their 2x2 upgrade (360K per drive) is easier on the pocketbook, but, for $150 more the 4x4 gives you more than FOUR times the disk space of Osborne double density.

The idea of replacing original Osborne 1 drives with alien and more sophisticated equipment made me nervous, but I had faith in Nuevo from past experience with their 80-column upgrade. Also, numerous articles/letters in past ***FOGHORN***s attest to Nuevo's products. They are highly qualified and dispense great service in a friendly manner.

The 4x4 upgrade came with easy-to-follow instructions and ALL TOOLS needed (a trademark of this company). The installation was easy... go slow when "getting all those little fragile pins into those tiny holes" . . . get help if you are the type that cannot change the band on a wrist watch.

My new disk drives (780K each) are "slim-line" which means that they occupy 1/2 the space of Osborne's. This leaves an empty space where the A drive was (room enough for... 10-MEG hard disk?... keep your eye on Nuevo's future ads). I quickly became accustomed to both A and B drives in the slot where the old B drive used to be. Note that there is NO additional electrical power needed (indeed, I suspect that these new drives draw less current), and the drives are faster and cooler.

Several useful public domain programs accompanied the Nuevo software on their INSTALL diskette (another trademark of this company).

In addition to the obvious benefit of 780K on each drive (I can put the more popular database, spreadsheet, and word processing programs on ONE diskette and STILL have room for other files on it) there is another terrific feature. Many, many other computer disk formats are AUTOMATICALLY recognized by the Nuevo upgrade. For those who exchange diskettes with other types of computers, this is a fantastic convenience. I choose to format some diskettes into Heath/Zenith-100 or Televideo (both double-sided, double-density). A Nuevo supplied program is needed ONLY at FORMAT time. At read or write time, these formats are AUTOMATICALLY recognized... No need to run a special program and/or copy files to a separate diskette!

I have dealt with the folks at Nuevo for over a year and have always been delighted by their friendliness and help. This is the only company that ever RETURNED MY LONG DISTANCE CALLS FOR HELP... Texas to Maryland!

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Want Library Copies?

Please refer to the **FOG MEMBER MERCHANDISE** in this issue or to the ***FOG Membership Information*** brochure sent to all members for information on obtaining copies of the disk library if you are unable to attend meetings of a local group. If you need a file in a hurry and have a modem, check the **FOG FONES** in this issue for the number of the FOG RBBS-RCP/M systems.

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SOFTWARE REVIEWS

NewWord on the Osborne Executive

by Harry Hawkins

Although I have used WordStar for several years and have had little trouble with it, advertisements for NewWord, a word processor from Rocky Mountain Software Systems, Box 3282, Walnut Creek, CA 94598, indicated NewWord might be a better word processing program. When a special offer arrived in the mail which would bring me NewWord for $125.00, I decided to purchase a copy. It seems that a new version was in the works and the older version was being sold at a reduced price. They also indicated that should one want the new version (which has some enhancements) it would only cost $25.00 for the upgrade. The literature I read indicated that NewWord was keystroke-for-keystroke and command-for-command compatible with WordStar plus a number of WordStar shortcomings were eliminated.

In about three weeks the NewWord package arrived. It included a single diskette and a rather large text which contained the operation manual. A notice with the package indicated that the disk file (NWU.COM) was uninstalled and further, the disk was "locked". The directions told me to make a copy of the disk on a blank disk with boot tracks already on it, then use an 800 phone number to call Rocky Mountain Software to "unlock" the disk. I did all this and then phoned Rocky Mountain Software to get further directions.

After some PIPing, and running the UNLOCKNW program (Marsha, at Rocky Mountain Software, directed me to enter numbers she read to me), the unlocked version was ready to install. In much the same way that INSTALL is run with WordStar, NWINSTAL is run with NewWord. I placed the NWINSTAL program on a separate disk and placed it in drive A. NWU.COM was placed in drive B and the following command line was executed:

```
A> NWINSTAL B:NWU.COM
```

After moving through several menus in the install program (again much the same as WordStar) I concluded that the program was installed. I exited the install program and then renamed the installed program NW.COM.

To test the program, I placed the newly installed NW.COM in drive A and typed NW. The system booted up to the opening menu and promptly crashed! What to do? Well, I concluded that I made some mistake during the install process. I ran the install program again, but again the same results. Since Rocky Mountain Software provides for free consultation via their 800 phone line for the first 90 days, I decided to call to find out what might be the problem.

After discussing my problems with Marsha (we talked so many times during the first month I had the software, that we began to recognize each other's voices), she concluded that the NewWord software sent to me was an Osborne 1 version and would not install on the Executive. She asked me to send the disk back and they would send me a generic or standard version which we would need to install (or patch) via telephone conversations.

I sent the disk back and in approximately one week I received the standard version disk. Back to the phone and the unlock process again. The install program this time provided for selecting a number of terminals. I was told to select the Televideo 950. I did this and then exited the install program. This time when I typed NW, the beginning menu displayed. The video, however, was reversed to what I was used to with WordStar. That is, the text that is typed in is displayed in low intensity with blocked text and menu terms all in regular or high lighted video. I learned that this was normal for NewWord. Although I could exercise the various commands, I really wanted the video to be more like WordStar. Back to the phone.

As a result of several conversations and trials with SID to change the code which controlled the low and regular intensity video, we finally managed to get it reversed. At this time, one of the programmers at Rocky Mountain Software suggested that the Executive might better be installed in the form of the ADM-3A terminal. I installed NewWord for the Lear ADM-3A and found myself back with the reversed video again. Rather than another phone call, I tried the SID directions used previously on the Televideo 950 installation and it worked. This procedure simply changes memory location 039B from 28 to 29 and location 039E from 29 to 28. The following sequence is used with SID on the disk in drive A and NewWord (NW.COM) on a disk in drive B:

```
A> SID B:NW.COM
# S39B
039B 28 (You type in 29 and ⏎)
039C -- (Type a ⏎)
039D -- (Type a ⏎)
039E 29 (You type in 28 and ⏎)
W B:NW.COM, 100,3100 (This will Write or Save the change)
```

Another problem became apparent as soon as I tried to write using the program. When a line "wrapped around" automatically, the entire screen would refresh rather than only scroll the page up one line. This became a real pain since it slowed the typing down considerably. Back to the phone. Marsha suggested that I use the SPECIAL PATCHES selection with install to find the hexadecimal code contained in the ERAEOL (Erase to end of line) and ERAEOS (Erase to end of screen). Since the scrolling feature worked fine when installed as a Televideo 950, the code used in the Televideo installation should work for the ADM-3A. This code could then be placed in the same SPECIAL PATCHES for the ADM-3A. I did this and noticed only three hexadecimal numbers were different. See the chart below comparing the two:

cont. on page 36

Do you use WORDSTAR™?

— Then you need **THE ENHANCER!**

$35

THE ENHANCER has been getting RAVE reviews . . . Here's Why:

→ Run The Enhancer just once to install WordStar for almost any printer.

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Depending on your printer, you'll get easy access to:

Pica • elite • condensed • italic • bold doublestrike
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Mix and match type styles within a line.
AND MORE—TO THE LIMITS OF YOUR PRINTER!

Choose from a menu of popular dot-matrix printers including:

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- Hyphen-Help (on/off)
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cont. from page 33

ADM-3A

```
O ¦ 00 1B 54 00 00 00 1B 59 00 00 02 1B 52 00 00 00 . TYR
P ¦ 00 1B 59 00 00 02 1B 52 00 00 00 1B 45 00 00 05 . YRE
```

Televideo 950

```
O ¦ 02 1B 54 00 00 02 1B 59 00 00 02 1B 52 00 00 02 . TYR
P ¦ 02 1B 59 00 00 02 1B 52 00 00 02 1B 45 00 00 05 . YRE
```

Notice that the underlined items for **O** and **P** on the Televideo 950 are the only items different from the ADM-3A. By using the NWINSTAL program to select **H. SPECIAL PATCHES** and then select first **O** which is the ERAEOL (erase to end of line), change the appropriate items to the Televideo 950 code as shown in the chart above. Directions to use the patch are given in the documentation. After completing the **O** selection, select and do the same sort of editing or changing with selection **P**, which is the ERAEOS (erase to end of screen). When completed, use **X** to exit from the patch program and then exit and save the new installation.

I installed the ADM-3A again and changed the three numbers to match the Televideo 950 code as described above. This patch worked like a charm and NewWord then worked as well or better than WordStar.

Another item I changed using the SPECIAL PATCHES section is the start-up banner. I changed the Standard Terminal to read "Osborne Executive" so that the start-up would look a little better. This in no way changes the way the software runs.

Another feature that was suggested by Rocky Mountain Software, and which worked well for me, was in passing setup codes on to the printer. I use an FX-80 and frequently select a ^P while in CP/M+ to activate the printer. I then send ESC E ESC G to setup the printer for Emphasized and Double strike type. Another ^P disengages the printer and so long as the printer is not turned off, any printing will be emphasized and double struck. In NewWord, the print driver appears to override such codes and sends the driver codes to the printer if the FX-80 was selected during the install procedure. However, when Print is selected from the Beginning Menu in NewWord, if you use a RETURN to select the defaults for page stop, starting page, etc., the last selection will be PRINTER SELECTION. A menu of printers will appear on the screen with this prompt. You may select a wide variety of printers so that one can select, at the last minute, whatever printer one wants. If you type **Draft**, then the codes that have been previously setup (emphasized and double strike in my case) will not be changed and all will be printed as desired.

NewWord is keystroke-for-keystroke and command-for-command compatible with WordStar. I have had no trouble at all converting from one to the other. A number of NewWord commands and features appear to be superior to WordStar. For example the ^U or Undelete command. This will allow you to delete a letter, word or sentence in the normal manner but then you can use ^U to recover and undelete. In fact, you can delete a word or phrase at one place, move the cursor to a new location and press ^U to insert the deleted material at the new location. You can set the number of "undeleted" characters (I have mine set for 100) to whatever you desire by using the install program. If you delete a number of characters larger than the undelete can handle, the prompt after delete will notify you that you will not be able to recover all that is deleted and ask for a Y or N to proceed with the delete. NewWord generally provides you with a prompt when the selected action may cause text to be lost such as with delete or ^Y.

The menus all appear to be less cluttered than those used by WordStar. Help messages are available for all commands by using the ^J function. A second ^J allows you access to the menu to change the help level on the screen.

Another useful feature included in NewWord, which is not available in WordStar, is the Quick move to a specific page. By selecting the ^Q (Quick menu) then entering a P (for page) and then the page number and <RETURN>, the screen will move to the page desired. This is much better than scrolling page after page or using the Find function to locate a word on the page in question. Also, NewWord automatically returns to the point where you left the cursor when you execute a ^KS (Save and Return). As you probably know, WordStar returns to the beginning of the file after a ^KS (using ^QP will bring you back to where you left off).

Another feature supported by NewWord is microjustification. I tried it but it is at best the slowest type of printing I have ever used. The FX-80 slows down to a crawl since it prints a word, moves to the right margin then back to print another word etc. The entire document is printed "word-by-word" in a painfully slow way. Yes it does support microjustification but at quite a cost in printing speed.

NewWord does not provide for working with columns of text as does WordStar. Since I do not use this function at present I do not miss it. I understand that the new version of NewWord will have this enhancement.

I have found that all the block moves, deletes, printing and other such functions, work well and nearly always provide a (Y/N) prompt to give you a last chance to change your mind. For example, even when you use D to edit a file and find that you made a spelling mistake, NewWord will indicate that it cannot find the file and ask if you wish to establish a new file? If you answer N then you immediately go back to the beginning menu. In WordStar you would need to wait until a new file has been setup, then use the ^KQ to abandon the unwanted file.

Scrolling through text is, in some respects, better with NewWord than with WordStar. I have found that with WordStar, holding the down-arrow key, down to automatically repeat scrolling, will cause the cursor to move far ahead of the text and you generally overshoot the area you want. With NewWord the scroll keeps pace with the cursor (actually, the cursor moves only as fast as the scroll, so it does not "get ahead"). *[I use ^C. David]*

NewWord also comes with a MailMerge program built-in. I have not had the time, or need, to use this feature so I can not report on it.

The documentation appears to be good but not as good as the WordStar documentation which comes with the Executive. The NewWord Manual is large (over 1 inch thick) and contains good examples of commands. A section titled "The NewWord Encyclopedia" contains many command explanations as well

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as examples and applications. All in all the documentation is good. The only problem with the documentation is in the installation. If Rocky Mountain supplies an installed version for the Executive, future users will certainly avoid the problems I experienced.

In general, NewWord is an excellent word processor which is well supported by Rocky Mountain Software. Their 800 phone service and support for installation is excellent. It is hoped that soon they will have installed versions of NewWord for the Executive as well as other machines of limited numbers. For those who have used WordStar and feel comfortable with it, moving to NewWord will not be a problem at all. Rumor has it that MicroPro may very well limit its support for the 8 bit machine versions of WordStar and devote their talents to the IBM and 16 bit machines. If this in fact happens, NewWord will probably become more valuable for the 8 bit users.

[I thought that MicroPro's policy was, "no end user support." That's the way it was when I bought my computer! David]

* * * * * * *

KAMAS and a Modification for the Osborne 1

by John M. Turnbow, M.D.

Recently, I was confronted by the necessity to develop 20 new lectures for a class of 2nd-year medical students, on a wide range of clinical topics. No small job, and one requiring considerable organization of material. More importantly, such a task inevitably involves a great deal of RE-organization of material. I decided that this would be the ideal time to purchase KAMAS (Knowledge and Mind Amplification System).

KAMAS is available from Spite Software, for Osborne DD, at $145. Spite provided their usual excellent service, and the package arrived promptly.

The package is somewhat formidable. It contains the diskettes (two — KAMAS and the first volume of utilities, which is the primary subject of this article), the end-user registration, and three (count 'em, three) manuals. It took me about a month to get over my initial shock and try to use the program. Once I started using KAMAS, I found my reservations to be unfounded. It took about a week of spare-time experimentation and I was KAMASing with the best of them. I should tell you, though, that I haven't tackled the programming environment yet, just the outline editor function. The FORTH-like programming language promises to be challenging, but to add great versatility.

KAMAS is quite simply a GREAT piece of software. It is efficient for what it is designed to do, is well-documented, fairly easy to use once you get used to its peculiarities, and is apparently well-supported both by its author, Adam Trent of Compusophic, and by the retailer. The outline editor is the ideal tool for the creative writer, or the designer of complex material for presentation (as in my case).

It allows the author to organize complex material in a logical fashion very easily. This is a difficult job with a text editor

⇨

such as WordStar. KAMAS makes such transfers simple and nearly instantaneous.

The only problems I encountered were:

(1) KAMAS uses a "leaf" editor (this creates and edits the text that makes up the body of the outlined material) modeled after a text editor called EMACS. This means you must learn a new set of keystrokes (^D instead of ^G to delete the cursor character, for example). Furthermore, you must switch back and forth if you plan to keep using WordStar — this is real fun!

(2) Disk space — KAMAS uses a master file SYSTOPIC.TOP, which consumes 118K on the A drive, along with other files which fill up all but 2K of your system disk, leaving no room for file transfer.

(3) The user, in creating new files on drive B, must specify their size in advance; this requires some foresight, and can be aggravating.

The solution to most of the problems, however, is contained on the second disk, UTILITIES, which Spite is now shipping with KAMAS. For those who may already have KAMAS and wonder if it's worth the $10 for the UTILITIES disk — stop wondering. Buy it!

The UTILITIES allow you to:

a) Make KAMAS keystroke-compatible with WordStar, so you use most of the commands for the same purposes.
b) Output a portion of an outline to a separate disk file (this is useful if you didn't allow yourself enough space in the first place).
c) Convert a file created under KAMAS to a WordStar-compatible text file.
d) Read an external CP/M text file into KAMAS.
e) Expand the capabilities of the outline editor.
f) Expand the search abilities of the program.
g) Print a complete branch of your outline in indented form.
h) Use various output formatting options not formerly available.

A useful utility which I had some trouble with initially, but found a solution to, is MAKE 8K SYSTOPIC. This program allows you to cut the size of the SYSTOPIC file (which KAMAS MUST HAVE to run) from 118K to 8K. This is important because it frees up enough space on drive A to put UTILITIES there, leaving drive B completely open for new files created under KAMAS. You lose some help menus, but after you've used KAMAS for about a week, you'll rarely use the ones you've lost.

There is a problem with running this program on the Osborne 1, however. When you try to run it, the program aborts because it has to create an 8K file on drive A as an intermediate, but it has only 2K to work with.

Here is the solution:

1. MAKE A BACKUP COPY OF KAMAS.
2. Using your backup KAMAS and your CP/M, PIP two 5K files: KAMAS.OV2 and KAMAS.OV3, to your CP/M disk, then ERAse them from your KAMAS system disk. These are the ONLY two files you can do this with. There are other files on the disk that you could erase in order to get enough room, but I tried the other permutations and couldn't make them work, since KAMAS needs all of the other overlays to run the utility program.
3. Load the altered KAMAS into drive A and UTILITIES into drive B.
4. Respond to the prompts — be sure to respond **YES** when KAMAS asks if you want the AUX ROVE menu (be prepared to wait a couple of minutes for AUX ROVE to load.).
5. At ROVE: type **U** (for User areas), then **U** (for UTILITIES).
6. When you get the MENU: prompt, type **J7** ↵.
7. UTILITIES will now alter your SYSTOPIC file — respond to the prompts as they are presented.
8. CP/M and use PIP to restore KAMAS.OV2 and KAMAS.OV3 to your new, altered system disk.
9. PIP UTILITIE.TOP (found on the UTILITIES disk) to your new KAMAS system disk. You will probably also want KTOWS.COM on your system disk.

My lecture preparation went very smoothly thanks to KAMAS. Now that they're finished, I plan to go on to the programming environment, and hope to report on it soon.

Many thanks should go to Norman Worthington and SPITE Software for developing the KAMAS-WordStar interchange software. They have certainly (again) demonstrated their commitment to professional-quality support for CP/M systems.

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Paperback Writer (PC-DOS) (Where Are They Now? Chapter One)

by Thomas Kendall

*[If FOG were actively supporting MS-DOS (as we are talking about), and if **FOGHORN** had a sister publication to facilitate that support (as I feel it should), this review (series) would appear there. But for now, only **FOGHORN** readers that also use MS-DOS computers will benefit from my decision to publish this. Will it run on the Osborne 3? David]*

Where Are They Now? Chapter One

The irrepressible Adam Osborne has returned to the microcomputer scene with his grandly-named software company, Paperback Software International. The company's first offerings, all of which run only on IBM-PC's or close clones, include two different word processors (one entry level and the other full-featured), a spreadsheet, a graphics program and a disk of educational games for preschoolers.

The marketing strategy for Paperback International's software is unique. Adam is pricing these packages at bargain-basement prices and allowing generous dealer discounts. He is charging for user telephone support. He also is doing little or no advertising. He apparently hopes that cheap prices and word-of-mouth will carry the day. How well his marketing

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CALENDAR

Under this heading you will find the listing of activities and events of Affiliated Member Organizations. Listings are the responsibility of the groups' officers. Officers must have corrections into FOG office by the first of the month prior to publication (December 1st for the January issue). For a list of other groups, see ***"CONTACTS"*** in back issues starting January, 1983, or send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the FOG offices. Please include a note with your geographical area. To verify the meeting date, time, or location, call the number in the right hand column.

Date	City	A.M.O.	Day	Time	Meeting Address	Contact No.
Aug 19	Soldotna, AK	18-PenFOG	3rd M	7:00pm	Totem Realty, 44669 Sterling Highway	907-262-5801
Aug 19	Anchorage, AK	63-GLOB	3rd M	7:00pm	Wendler Jr. High School,Room 133, 2905 Lake Otis Parkway	907-276-6484
Sep 12	Sitka, AK	83-BUG	2nd Th	7:30pm	Human Services Center, 207 Moller Dr.	907-747-5372
Sep 8	Ketchikan, AK	89-KCPM	2nd Su	4:00pm	320 Bawden Suite 101	907-225-6476
Aug 28	Homewood, AL	49-FAOUG	last Sa	1:00pm	Homewood Public Library, 1755 Oxmoor Road	205-669-4396
Sep 5	Huntsville, AL	125-NAOUG	1st Th	7:00pm	Madison County Court House, Jury Venire Rm	205-881-0377
Sep 12	Ft. Smith, AR	23-AFOG	2nd Th	7:00pm	Lewis Paint and Supply, 4900 Wheeler Avenue	501-785-0820
Sep 3	Tempe, AZ	100-TOG	1st Tu	6:30pm	Tempe Public Library, Pyle Adult Center, Southern Ave at Rural Rd	602-438-2731
Sep 4	Stockton, CA	11-SOG	1st W	7:00pm	Allen's Computerland 4343 Pacific Ave.	209-951-4701
Sep 9	Fresno, CA	35-FROG	2nd M	7:00pm	1434 West Shaw, Suite A	209-683-2252
Aug 21	Long Beach, CA	130-OPEN	3rd W	6:30pm	C.S.U., Learning Assistance Center	213-498-4186 x 5350
Sep 5	Palo Alto, CA	1-1st FOG SV	1st Th	7:30pm	Ford Aerospace, 3939 Fabian Way	408-371-8699
Sep 13	Castroville, CA	5-MBAOCUG	2nd F	7:00pm	Castroville Fire Station, Rec Room, Speegle & Pomber	408-449-4021
Aug 22	San Francisco, CA	2-SFCS	4th Th	7:00pm	St. Aidan's Church, Goldmine & Diamond Hgts.	415-239-1399
Sep 11	Oakland, CA	3-East Bay FOG	2nd W	6:00pm	B & B Electric, 2832 Ford Street	415-272-9099
Sep 10	San Rafael, CA	31-MOG	2nd Tu	7:00pm	San Rafael High School, 2nd Street	415-897-0629
Aug 21	Walnut Creek, CA	60-MTDOG	3rd W	7:00pm	Thurman Casey Memorial Library, 2661 Oak Grove Road	415-933-2665
Call	Menlo Park, CA	68-SMOG^3	1st M	7:30pm	Crane Place, 1331 Crane	415-325-2442
Aug 19	Menlo Park, CA	68-SMOG^3	3rd M	7:30pm	Crane Place, 1331 Crane	415-325-2442
Sep 9	29 Palms, CA	114-HOG	2nd M	6:00pm	CONFIRM	619-367-9783
Aug 21	Arcata, CA	29-HOG	3rd W	7:15pm	Humbold State Univ., Science Bldg., Rm 126	707-445-2074
Sep 5	Santa Rosa, CA	56-No. Bay FOG	1st Th	7:30pm	Valley Oak Park Rec Hall, 2600 Northcoast St.	707-546-0145
Sep 3	Santa Maria, CA	42-SMOG	1st Tu	7:00pm	Sears Savings Bank, 401 South Broadway	805-937-1128
Sep 12	San Luis Obispo, CA	47-CCOG	2nd Th	7:00pm	TRW, 1050 Southwood Drive	805-544-4267
Aug 27	Santa Barbara, CA	69-OSBUG	last Tu	7:30pm	SB Planning Rm, 105 E. Anapamu St	805-687-8541
Call	Sierra Madre, CA	66-SMOG	????		By arrangement only — CONFIRM	818-355-8825
Sep 13	Chatsworth, CA	86-ONUG	2nd F	7:00pm	20630 Lassen Street	818-709-6202
Sep 12	Northridge, CA	106-TUG-NET	2nd Th	7:00pm	Valley Federal Savings, 9055 Reseda Blvd.	818-994-6567
Aug 26	Sherman Oaks, CA	106-TUG-NET	4th M	7:00pm	Central Savings, 4464 Van Nuys Blvd.	818-994-6567
Sep 4	El Monte, CA	113-El Monte	each W	5:00pm	Chadwick-Helmuth 4601 N. Arden Drive	818-575-6161
Sep 11	El Monte, CA	113-El Monte	each W	5:00pm	Chadwick-Helmuth 4601 N. Arden Drive	818-575-6161
Aug 21	El Monte, CA	113-El Monte	each W	5:00pm	Chadwick-Helmuth 4601 N. Arden Drive	818-575-6161
Aug 28	El Monte, CA	113-El Monte	each W	5:00pm	Chadwick-Helmuth 4601 N. Arden Drive	818-575-6161
Sep 12	Davis, CA	6-DOG	2nd Th	7:00pm	PG&E Warehouse Classroom L Street	916-756-2967
Sep 4	Sacramento, CA	61-SOG	1st W	7:00pm	SMUD Utility Bldg, 1708 59th St	916-487-3277
Sep 5	Denver, CO	4-DOG	1st Th	7:00pm	Clements Comm. Center 2nd Floor 1580 Yarrow	303-623-3119
Aug 28	Boulder, CO	65-BUG	4th W	7:00pm	Colorado Univ. Business School, Rm 101	303-494-8741
Sep 11	Boulder, CO	65-BUG	2nd W	7:00pm	Colorado Univ. Business School, Rm 101	303-494-8741
Aug 18	Ft. Collins, CO	115-FTCOG	3rd W	7:30pm	C.S.U.Ind. Sciences Computer Lab, 200 W. Laurel, Rm 200	303-226-4156
Sep 4	Colorado Springs, CO	133-CSOG	each W	7:00pm	Hewlett Packard, Garden of the Gods, Spruce Rm	303-473-7647
Sep 11	Colorado Springs, CO	133-CSOG	each W	7:00pm	Hewlett Packard, Garden of the Gods, Spruce Rm	303-473-7647

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Date	City	A.M.O.	Day	Time	Meeting Address	Contact No.
Aug 21	Colorado Springs, CO	133-CSOG	each W	7:00pm	Hewlett Packard, Garden of the Gods, Spruce Rm	303-473-7647
Aug 28	Colorado Springs, CO	133-CSOG	each W	7:00pm	Hewlett Packard, Garden of the Gods, Spruce Rm	303-473-7647
Sep 14	Colorado Springs, CO	133-CSOG	2nd Sa	1:00pm	Pikes Peak Community College Cafeteria	303-473-7647
Sep 11	Danbury, CT	40-DOG	2nd W	7:00pm	QUALCORP Conference Room, Shelter Rock Road	203-775-1102
Aug 28	Danbury, CT	40-DOG	4th W	7:00pm	QUALCORP Conference Roon, Shelter Rock Road	203-775-1102
Sep 5	Orlando, FL	16-GOOUG	each Th	7:30pm	Gard Micro Systems, 7525 Currency Drive	305-847-7031
Sep 12	Orlando, FL	16-GOOUG	each Th	7:30pm	Gard Micro Systems, 7525 Currency Road	305-847-7031
Aug 15	Orlando, FL	16-GOOUG	each Th	7:30pm	Gard Micro Systems, 7525 Currency Road	305-847-7031
Aug 22	Orlando, FL	16-GOOUG	each Th	7:30pm	Gard Micro Systems, 7525 Currency Road	305-847-7031
Aug 29	Orlando, FL	16-GOOUG	each Th	7:30pm	Gard Micro Systems, 7525 Currency Road	305-847-7031
Sep fig5	Maitland, FL	20-CFLOG	1st Th	7:30pm	Lake Faith Villas Club Room, Maitland Blvd	305-298-8576
Aug 15	Maitland, FL	20-CFLOG	3rd Th	7:30pm	Lake Faith Villas Club Room, Maitland Blvd	305-298-8576
Sep 8	Miami, FL	26-GCOUG	2nd Su	1:30pm	F.I.U Tamiami Campus, Building DM, Room 100	305-251-7666
Sep 12	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	91-FLOG	2nd Th	7:00pm	Harris Comp Sys, 2101 W. Cypress Creek	305-748-7237
Sep 11	Jacksonville, FL	98-JOUG	2nd W	7:00pm	JEA Bldg, 233 W. Duval Street	904-633-4920
Call	Athens, GA	81-CP/M Athens	1st M	7:00pm	Athens Microcomputer Center, W. Broad Street	404-353-2127
Sep 9	Decatur, GA	93-TOGA	2nd M	7:00pm	Emory University, Chemistry Bldg. Ampitheater, Decatur Road	404-457-4775
Call	Hilo, HI	124-HIFOG	????		Shayne Enterprises, 180 Kinoole Street	808-935-8678
Sep 11	Davenport, IA	102-QCOG	2nd W	7:00pm	CONFIRM	319-386-3484
Aug 23	Davenport, IA	102-QCOG	4th M	7:00pm	CONFIRM	319-386-3484
Aug 13	Ames, IA	12-Midwest FOG	2nd Tu	7:00pm	(even months) IA State Univ. 200 Engineering Annex	515-270-3573
Sep 10	Des Moines, IA	12-Midwest FOG	2nd Tu	7:00pm	(odd months) Yonker's Computer Depot, 100 Merle Hay Plaza	515-270-3573
Sep 12	Sioux City, IA	38-SOG	2nd Th	7:30pm	Western Iowa Tech., Room 508	712-252-2182
Sep 14	River Grove, IL	80-CFOG	2nd Sa	1:00pm	College Center Bldg, Triton College, 2000 Fifth Ave	312-654-0986
Aug 25	River Grove, IL	80-CFOG	last Su	1:00pm	College Center Bldg, Triton College, 2000 Fifth Ave	312-654-0986
Call	Rockford, IL	84-GROG	????		CONFIRM	815-874-7146
Sep 5	W. Lafayette, IN	34-HOG	1st Th	7:00pm	CONFIRM	317-474-0253
Sep 9	Evansville, IN	46-E-OSBUG	2nd M	6:30pm	Oaklyn Branch Evansville Library, Oakhills & Lynch	812-479-5108
Call	Bloomington, IN	87-IOU	1st M	7:30pm	Indiana Univ, Cyclotron Facility, 2401 M. B. Sampson Lane	812-334-3234
Aug 27	Wichita, KS	21-OPEK	4th Tu	7:30pm	St. Paul's Methodist Church, 1356 Broadway	316-832-0447
Sep 3	Hutchinson, KS	137-HUTCH	1st Tu	7:30	Hutchinson Public Library	316-6637678
Sep 14	Louisville, KY	64-PCCL	2nd Sa	1:00pm	Univ. of Louisvile, Burhans Hall Rm 202, Shelbyville Road	502-451-0508
Aug 17	Lexington, KY	32-KOG	3rd Sa	12:00n	213 Funkhouser Building, University of Kentucky	606-269-1684
Sep 9	Baton Rouge, LA	103-FLOG	2nd M	7:00pm	Johnson Equipment Co., 4264 Perkins Road Co.	504-923-0888
Sep 6	Lexington, MA	122-BOG	1st F	7:30pm	Honeywell Electro Optical Div, Route 2A	617-484-1863
Aug 27	Bedford, MA	122-BOG	last Tu	7:30pm	Mitre Corp., Route 62	617-484-1863
Call	Silver Spring, MD	137-ERC-OUG	????		CONFIRM	301-622-4400x5331
Aug 19	Portland, ME	136-SMOG	3rd M	7:00pm	Portland Jetport conference room	207-772-1616
Aug 19	Dearborn, MI	14-DeFOG	3rd M	7:30pm	Ford Tech Center Cafeteria, 1700 Rotunda Dr	313-626-6641
Aug 15	Ann Arbor, MI	37-TOGA^2	3rd Th	7:00pm	Neuro Science Bldg. Univ. of MI, 1103 East Huron St	313-663-4669
Sep 10	Duluth, MN	118-DSO	2nd Tu	7:00pm	1440 90th Avenue West	218-626-3344
Sep 12	St. Paul, MN	111-TCOG	2nd Th	7:00pm	Univ. of MN,St. Paul Campus Rm B-45 Classrm Off Bldg	612-871-6076
Aug 27	St. Louis, MO	55-SLOG	4th Tu	7:00pm	Thornhill Library, 12863 Willowyck	314-991-4399
Aug 27	Kansas City, MO	97-MIZOG	Last Tu	7:00pm	TWA Bldg, 13th & Baltimore	913-686-2853
Sep 3	Jackson, MS	58-MCPM	1st Tu	7:00pm	Entre Computer Center, Capitol Street	601-981-2811
Sep 9	Charlotte, NC	71-LOGIC	2nd M	7:30pm	Home Federal Savings and Loan, Carmel Road	704-377-1154
Aug 19	Raleigh, NC	8-ROCC	3rd M	7:30pm	CONFIRM — Dreyfus Aud., Research Triangle Inst.	919-782-9576
Sep 12	High Point, NC	107-TROGIC	2nd Th	7:30pm	High Point College, Science Building, Basement	919-768-6808
Call	Fargo, ND	117-O/KUG	3rd Th	7:00pm	NDSU, Civil Engineering, Room 216	701-280-5722
Sep 10	Lincoln, NE	39-Lincoln LOG	2nd Tu	7:30pm	5530 O Street	402-761-3393
Aug 21	Woodbridge, NJ	138-JOG	3rd W	7:30pm	St. James School, Main Street	201-352-8000
Sep 10	Albuquerque, NM	127-AOG	2nd Tu	7:00pm	CONFIRM	505-268-3606

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Date	City	A.M.O.	Day	Time	Meeting Address	Contact No.
Aug 29	Albuquerque, NM	127-AOG	last Th	7:00pm	CONFIRM	505-268-3606
Aug 21	Las Vegas, NV	25-VOG	3rd W	7:00pm	CONFIRM	702-452-2544
Sep 3	New York, NY	135-NYOUG	1st Tu	6:00pm	73 Franklin Street	212-594-5976
Sep 1	Syracuse, NY	82-SOUP	1st Su	1:00pm	Location Varies — Confirm	315-471-1405
Sep 11	W. Hempstead, NY	88-LION	2nd W	7:30pm	Adelphi Univ Cont Ed Ctr, Room 110, Eagle Ave	516-481-0129
Sep 11	Ithaca, NY	101-FLOG	2nd W	7:30pm	Cornell Univ, G-94 Uris Hall	607-257-2030
Sep 10	Rochester, NY	132-FROG	2nd Tu	7:30pm	Monroe County Cooperative Ext. Center, 249 Highland Avenue	716-385-3456
Call	Rye, NY	104-WOG	3rd W	7:15pm	Westchester Federal Savings Bank, 67 Purchase Street	914-747-2110
Call	Oberlin, OH	9-^Ob^Os	1st M	7:30pm	Rice Faculty Lounge, Oberlin College	216-775-8290
Sep 9	Canton, OH	44-AKCAN	2nd M	6:30pm	Lake Cable Professional Bldg. 5850 Fullton Road NW	216-837-8926
Sep 11	Cleveland, OH	75-COG	2nd W	7:00pm	United Way, 3100 Euclid Avenue	216-888-2078
Aug 20	Cincinnati, OH	27-COG	3rd Tu	7:00pm	Central Trust Center 6th floor, 5th & Main Streets	513-232-4076
Sep 3	Dayton, OH	79-DOUG	1st Tu	7:30pm	St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 33 Dixon Drive	513-837-5651
Sep 11	Oklahoma City, OK	67-OKLOG	2nd W	7:00pm	Southwestern Bell, 111 Dean A McGee, Blue & Gold Rm	405-843-5925
Sep 4	Enid, OK	77-FOG/E	1st W	5:30pm	706 W. Maine	405-489-2228
Aug 22	Tulsa, OK	51-OUT	4th Th	8:00pm	Sheridan Library, 62 North Sheridan Road	918-587-3918
Call	Medford, OR	54-RVOG	????		CONFIRM	503-773-1222
Aug 28	Portland, OR	57-PMS	4th W	7:00pm	Bonneville Power Admin. Aud., 1002 NE Holladay St.	503-642-9692
Sep 1	Eugene, OR	128-LOCUG	1st Su	7:00pm	Farwest Federal Bldg., 96 E. Broadway	503-747-8242
Sep 14	Philadelphia, PA	121-PhROG	2nd Sa	9:30am	Merck, Sharp & Dome, Sumneytown Pike	215-648-5862
Aug 25	Pittsburgh, PA	50-TROG	4th Su	2:30pm	Mellon Science Building, Duquesne Univ.	412-456-3946
Aug 29	Lancaster, PA	74-LOG	last Th	7:30pm	3426 Horizon Drive,	717-285-4940
Aug 15	Lemoyne, PA	92-MIDPOG	3rd Th	7:30pm	One Stop Computer, 65 N. 5th St	717-243-7858
Aug 27	Greenville, SC	41-POGO	4th Tu	6:30pm	C. Douglas Wilson, 201 E. North Street	803-233-3434
Sep 18	Oak Ridge, TN	13-SMOG	3rd W	7:30pm	(odd months) ECS 136 Fairbanks	615-483-6857
Aug 21	Knoxville,TN	13-SMOG	3rd W	7:30pm	(even months) 11505 Kingston Pike	615-483-6857
Sep 5	Nashville, TN	119-MidTOG	1st Th	6:30pm	1228 16th Avenue So.	615-327-1715
Sep 10	Memphis, TN	15-MOG	2nd Tu	7:00pm	Memphis State University, Math Building	901-358-8128
Aug 15	College Station, TX	43-AGGNOG	3rd Th	5:30pm	A & A Building, Texas A & M Univ. Room 503	409-845-7770
Aug 21	Austin, TX	7-AEIOU	3rd W	7:00pm	Old Quarry Library off Far West Blvd. 7051 Village Center	512-836-3010
Aug 16	Houston, TX	76-OUCH	3rd F	7:30pm	Univ. Houston, 101 Farish Hall, KIVA Rm. (Use lot 1341 off Cullen)	713-931-1096
Sep 14	Houston, TX	108-CLOG	2nd Sa	9:00am	Gilruth Rec. Center, Johnson Space Center	713-554-4304
Sep 8	Amarillo, TX	28-POG	2nd Su	2:30pm	Downtown Branch Amarillo Public Library	806-355-7509
Aug 25	Amarillo, TX	28-POG	4th Su	2:30pm	Downtown Branch Amarillo Public Library	806-355-7509
Sep 9	Lubbock, TX	134-LOG	2nd M	7:30pm	Texas Tech Univ. Law Bldg., 19th & Hartford Room 202	806-742-3920
Aug 15	Provo, UT	30-KAOS	3rd Th	8:00pm	Wiltec Research Co. 488 South 500 West	801-225-8293
Aug 15	Salt Lake City, UT	105-SMOG	3rd Th	6:00pm	Master Mind Computers, 448 S. 400 E	801-268-2831
Aug 15	Richmond, VA	52-CVOG	3rd Th	7:00pm	Red Cross Bldg, 4th and Main	804-270-4936
Aug 17	Norfolk, VA	78-TOG	3rd Sa	9:00am	ECPI, 3661 East Virginia Beach	804-495-1596
Aug 15	St. Croix, VI	70-StCOUG	3rd Th	6:30pm	St. Croix Country Day School Library	809-773-7551
Call	Tacoma, WA	72-TOG	1st M	7:00pm	Parkland Library (Basement Mtg Rm) 404 Garfield So.	206-752-5582
Aug 21	Federal Way, WA	99-SKOG	3rd W	7:30pm	Highline Comm. Coll, Gold Rm — Bldg 4	206-643-3521
Aug 19	East Wenatchee, WA	10-WOG	3rd M	7:00pm	211 Ridgemont Drive	509-884-3279
Sep 12	Richland, WA	19-TROG	2nd Th	7:00pm	Richmond Public Library, Swift & Northgate	509-627-0950
Sep 11	Spokane, WA	123-SMUG	2nd W	7:00pm	Komputer Korner, N. 2001 Monroe	509-482-7989
Call	Milwaukee, WI	22-MilwOG	1st M	7:00pm	Math Bldg. Rm 495, Univ. of W. M.	414-691-4241
Sep 3	Madison, WI	129-MOO	1st Tu	7:00pm	1210 West Dayton Street, Rm B-214	414-887-2036
Aug 21	St. Albans, WV	59-Valley FOG	3rd W	6:30pm	Public Library, 6th Ave. and 4th Street	304-727-8716
Sep 22	Ashburton, Aust	131-VOUG	4th Su	2:30am	(odd months) Ashburton Public Library, 154 High Street	818-5062
Aug 28	Melbourne, Aust	131-VOUG	4th W	6:30pm	(even months) RMIT, Swanson St., Bldg. 12, Rm 908	818-5062
Sep 10	Edmonton, Alta	45-KOG	2nd Tu	7:30pm	Alberta Vocational College, 10215 - 108 Street	403-464-5088
Sep 9	Calgary, Alta	94-COUG	2nd M	7:30pm	911 - 32nd Ave NE	403-244-6268

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Date	City	A.M.O.	Day	Time	Meeting Address	Contact No.
Sep 11	Vancouver, B.C.	17-VPCC	2nd W	7:30pm	Hastings Community Center, 3096 East Hastings	604-298-6990
Sep 10	Victoria, B.C.	48-VIOG	2nd Tu	7:30pm	University of Victoria, Clearihue Bldg.	604-381-0614
Aug 26	Toronto, Ont	120-OUCT	last M	7:00pm	Parkdale Public Library, 1303 Queen St. W.	416-533-1531
Sep 10	London, Ont	95-LOG	2nd Tu	7:30pm	Univ. of W. Ont., Elborn College, Room 2130	519-438-7724
Sep 5	Westmount, P.Q.	73-Microcozm	1st Th	6:30pm	Hillside Armoury, 3 Hillside Lane	514-932-4164
Call	Charlottenlund, Denmark	126-FORMICRO	????	5:00pm	CONFIRM	45-1-631760
Sep 9	Paris, France	110-OUF	2nd M	6:30pm	Centre Malraux, 78 Bd Raspail	1-544-6216
Call	Hong Kong	116-HONG KOG	????		CONFIRM	852-5-8171714
Call	Jakarta, Indonesia	85-JOG	????		By arrangement only — CONFIRM	021-333-880
Sep 10	Auckland, New Zealand	53-NZOG	2nd Tu	8:00pm	Auckland University, Human Sciences Building, Rm 336	275-4310
Sep 4	Wellington, New Zealand	109-CROG	1st W	7:30pm	Compusales,75-77 Ghuznee St.	0064-4-791-172
Sep 5	Dhahran, Saudi Arabia	33-DPoG	1st Th	10:00am	ARAMCO Mgmt Training Center	874-4798
Aug 21	Johannesburg, So Africa	90-JOG	3rd W	6:30pm	New Library Hotel, CNR Fraser, Function Rm, 2nd Floor	011-51-6304
Sep 14	Bangkok, Thailand	36-CP/M BUG	2nd Sa	1:00pm	Action Compters 5126 Saladaeng Road, Silom	391-0963 x 86
Aug 21	Kaiserslautern, W. Ger.	62-FROG	3rd W	7:00pm	Ramstein Air Base, Ramstein Rec. Center	49-6371-13117
Call	Schweinfurt, W. Ger.	112-SWOG	????		CONFIRM	09721-68064
Call	Wiesbaden, W. Ger.	24-AGOG	1st M	7:00pm	Lindsey Air Station, Bld. A-24 Rm. 301	069-69-3218

FOG FONES

System ID	Phone number	Location	Size	Baud rate	When in operation	Notes
FOG office	(415) 755-2000	Daly City, CA			10am - 6pm/M-F	voice calls only please
FOG #1	(415) 755-2030	FOG Office	47Mb	300/1200	24 hrs/seven days	
FOG #2	(604) 941-2972	Vancouver, BC	10Mb	300/1200	24 hrs/seven days	
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FOG #32	(408) 287-7108	San Jose, CA	10Mb	300/1200	24hrs/seven days	
FOG #33	coming soon	Oakland, CA	10Mb	300/1200	24hrs/seven days	
FOG #34	coming soon	Bowie, MD	10Mb	300/1200	24hrs/seven days	

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strategy will work remains to be seen: software dealers I've talked to are downright hostile to the notion of carrying software packages with no advertising backup or free telephone support.

Paperback Writer

Marketing strategy is Adam's problem. This article is a review of one of his packages: Paperback Writer. (I'll review other Paperback Software programs in future issues). Paperback Writer is billed as "a highly functional word processing program combining economy with everything needed for day-to-day use." Full list price is a modest $39.95. Discount bookstores are offering it in the Chicago area for as little as $24.95.

How good is it? Pretty darn good, on a scale of A to F I give Paperback Writer a solid "A-".

Paperback Writer (hereafter "PW") runs on 128K machines with DOS 2.0 or higher and is compatible with the late, unlamented PCjr. It comes on a copy-protected disk which, while the files can be uploaded to a hard disk, must reside in the A drive for periodic calls to the cheater file (buried on the very last track as a bunch of bad sectors, says my Norton Utilities). A backup is available for $5.00, or for free if you trash the disk within the first 90 days.

I hate copy-protect. I don't use it on the software I sell. However, in fairness I must note that PW has an excellent, abbreviated version of its manual in a file callable by the program (more later). Thus, pirating this software would be a more fruitful pursuit than pirating, say, dBASE II. It also seems to make as few calls to the cheater file as possible. The existence of the copy-protect would rate an "F" in my book; mitigating factors pull this point up to a "C".

The documentation fits handily in a 98-page paperback. It includes an introduction to word processing, a very nice and relatively non-trivial tutorial, detailed instructions on all the functions, an excellent glossary, a detailed index, plus warranty, phone support policy and other blah-blah. Naiman's exemplary INTRODUCTION TO WORDSTAR was the obvious model for the documentation and, if anything, PW's documentation is clearer than that book. Documentation deserves a solid "A"; it could not be clearer nor more concise.

PW is not WordStar. Rather, it is precisely as stated, the basic Chevette Scooter of word processors. Also, it was designed with a somewhat different philosophy than WordStar. Despite this, it was surprisingly easy for this old WordStar aficionado to learn to use PW.

When you first start the program you are presented with the main menu, which gives you three choices: DIRECTORY, EDITOR, QUIT. Once in EDITOR mode, excellent use is made of the IBM-PC's function keys in conjunction with the CTRL and ALT keys. An inverse bar is always present on the 25th line of the IBM's display to tell you just what all the function keys do. The hierarchy of function-key commands is commendably logical. The screen design allows you maximum working space to view your text and has a minimum of clutter. Screen layout, coupled with clever and full use of the IBM-PC's function keys, rate an "A". By contrast, I would rate WordStar a "C" in this category.

Cursor-movement commands are quite good: you get every movement WordStar is capable of without exception. You can either use PW's command structure entirely (which like the function keys uses the IBM-PC's keyboard to great advantage) or use some of the WordStar single-letter CTRL sequences (^-S, -D, -A, -F, -E, -X, -R and -C are all supported). Ease and versatility of cursor-movement rate another "A".

Setting up margins and turning off right-justification (default is ON) are done from a menu, called by using a function key. Tabs, however, are set and unset from the editing screen, as are: bold on/off, underline on/off and centering. You can also force an unconditional page break. That's it, folks, as far as doing fancy things with the printout is concerned. This ain't WordStar, after all, so forget about double-strike, super- and subscripts, alternate pitch, strikeout and all those other fancy things. Still, what was left in (including a non-document mode!) was thoughtfully considered, so I rate these features a "B".

Editing entered text has a couple of inconsistencies and rough edges. INSERT is on by default, you can change it to OVERSTRIKE by using a function key. With INSERT on, however, you cannot insert a TAB to the next marked tab-stop, you have to SPACE the desired number of spaces. Marking, deleting, moving and copying blocks of text is somewhat clumsy. For instance, automatic unmarking of the previously marked block is not supported, you have to unmark the block before you can mark another one. Copying a block does not turn off marked block highlighting, but moving a block does. Your maximum marked block size is also somewhat limited: a couple of hundred characters. There is a nice RECALL BLOCK command in case you goof. Reformatting is amazingly quick and works like WordStar. Overall, editing rates a "B".

Printing a file is a snap: when you select the PRINT option via a function key, you are presented with a menu that lets you select top and bottom margins, page offset from left, line spacing, lines per page, page width, sheet-change pause and whether or not you want the pages numbered. You cannot edit a file while you're printing. The printer driver part of Paperback Writer is much quicker than the WordStar equivalent. Ease of printing rates an "A". WordStar, with its .DOT commands and pokey printout, by contrast, rates a "C" in this category.

File handling is exemplary. I searched the manual in vain for some indication of how large a document I could edit. Then I tried repeatedly copying a block of text to make PW run out of RAM. Surprise! PW has virtual files, just like WordStar, and unlike any other cheap word processor I know of. Using UPDATE saves the file to disk, then returns you to where you were in the text (no ^QP nonsense). SAVE saves the file, changes the old file to a .BAK file and returns you to the main menu. The documentation states that PW files are upwardly compatible with Executive Writer, their $69.95, full-featured Wangwriter clone. PW gets a solid "A" in the file handling category.

The on-line documentation is superb. Pressing a function key gets you instructions for HELP on anything you could want. The HELP screens file totals 41,216 bytes, and all the screens are as commendably clear and concise as the docu-

⇨

mentation. On-line help deserves an "A".

So, six "A"s, two "B"s and a "C" add up to a solid "A-" for Paperback Writer. In summary, PW, while less than full-featured, provides all the word processing functions needed for most reasonable tasks, from a grocery list to The Great American Novel. The program is easy to learn and very quick in its functions. Upward compatibility of files with a full-featured word processor is a definite plus. I now use Paperback Writer exclusively when I'm forced to write something on my IBM-PC. Those of you who are facing the prospect of an IBM-PC should consider Paperback Writer.

* * * * * * * *

KAMAS: Knowledge and Mind Amplification System

by Dave Luehring

Knowledge and Mind Amplification System

That's what CompuSophic Systems, P.O. Box 5599, Aloha, OR, calls their CP/M "thought processor." Sound presumptuous? Well, maybe. But in my opinion, KAMAS may have earned the description. The idea of being able to deal with the major concepts, while not being bothered by detailed text, is nothing new. The thing that's new with KAMAS is that we can create in this same way on our computers.

The problem with most word processors is that they're intended to put words on paper, all nicely formatted and ready for use. Where the words came from and how they got organized was not the major point. Word processors made the task of typing easy.

Word processors, of course, do more than that. For those of us who think and create on their typewriter, these tools make those processes far easier. Block moves, file manipulation, etc., all help with the cut-and-paste process. Using WordStar, for example, one can create an entire pamphlet (the whole ***FOGHORN***) on disk.

In the process of all that manipulation, I sometimes get lost. I find myself not remembering what the idea was that I was trying to get across. In short, mechanics overcome creativity. Wouldn't it be nice if software came along that would let us manipulate the ideas, filling in the detail when it was convenient?

KAMAS looked like it could do just that, so I bought it. It does perform that function. The following observations are offered in the most constructive sense, and are not meant to convey the impression I'm disappointed, a grouch, or expect the world for $157.

First of all, the manuals are exceptionally good. The material is there, it's well presented, and the manuals "look good". KAMAS operates on several levels. One is a straight outline processor with thoughts arranged in a logical hierarchy. The main thoughts are called stems. Stems with other stems on them, of course, become branches. One can expand on a stem (creating a leaf) while in the outline processor, but it's not necessary to do so. While in the outline processor mode, you can focus on any stem and the program shows its relationship to the concepts above it in the hierarchy. You can display text (leaves) if you like, or suppress it. When you move a stem, the leaf moves with it. If you like, you can move the entire branch.

When you are ready to fill in the detail, you use the leaf editor. In this mode, KAMAS emulates Perfect Writer, I'm told. But I've modified mine, using a public domain utility that came with the package, to emulate WordStar. Mind you, it doesn't work exactly like WS's . . . ^T (^ means the control key), for example, does not clean out the characters in front of the cursor in KAMAS; ^Y does that. I have to be careful in switching back to WS or I find myself losing entire lines of text when carrying that ^Y over.

KAMAS can find character strings for you. Once found, you can edit, move, delete, or whatever you desire.

KAMAS can display your outline (the stems) without the leaves. The display can be echoed to the printer. Handy for keeping track of how the tree looks from a distance.

There are several formatting options available. One can output material to the printer either formatted for fixed margins, or not. Or one can output to a file (each line containing a hard carriage return). Or, using another public domain utility that came with the package, one can output to a file without those pesky hard returns. I suspect I haven't learned how to make KAMAS really do my bidding in formatting finished text. I found it more convenient to manipulate the text in WS when I was ready for the finished product.

One can program in KAMAS, too. The three volumes of documentation include more than a volume and a half on dealing with KAMAS on this level. It's said to be a "threaded" language, a bit like FORTH. Well, right now that's over my head. I'll get to it, as Jerry Pournelle would say, "real soon now."

KAMAS does have a few problems. For instance, the index. It's found only at the end of Vol. II. I understand the economics of this, but for the newcomer to KAMAS it's a bit of a pain. Besides that, often I didn't find the items I needed in the index (e.g., MARGINS, OUTPUT, YANK aren't there). Perhaps the publishers will re-index with the novice user in mind. Nitpicky, but a few page numbers were off by one page here and there.

While not a fault of KAMAS itself, be prepared for lots of disk accesses. In the floppy environment, both drives are whirring almost every time a command is given. This slows things down quite a bit, and is distracting. On the other hand, on my Osborne Executive (with Drive C), the program is fast and responsive.

KAMAS itself didn't support input from WordStar files. That didn't last long, and a public domain utility (also came with the package) lets you do this. Apparently uses WS comments (..'s at left margin) to issue the KAMAS commands that create branches, stems, leaves, etc.

I did fall into a few pits, getting started. But they're NOTHING compared to, let's say, dBASE or even WordStar. Occasionally, I encountered something that hadn't yet been introduced. For instance, I managed to do something wrong in the introductory sessions and evoked 'ABEND: <whatever>. Well, "guten tag" to you, sir. Because of its identity with the German word for evening, it bothered me not to understand it.

Fortunately, that's a term that is in the index. And when I wanted to change the margins, it took a bit of research to find out how to do this (e.g., "Margin" isn't in the index). Finally I stumbled onto it.

Several times, I let my fingers get ahead of my brain while in the outline editor, and hit a command like ID (Insert Stem — Down One Level) without really meaning to. It took a while to find out how to get out of this; ESC won't do it. I accidentally stumbled on the fact that hitting the down arrow key causes this to abort and return to the outline. I made this mistake quite a few times.

There is not a global command to set print margins. This is an annoyance, since each stem therefore needs to be given formatting instructions individually. The KAMAS Newsletter shows how this can be overcome by a minimal amount of programming, to develop a routine one executes at the beginning of a topic. Maybe that will be built into future versions. It ought to be!

Finally, KAMAS has some telecommunications aspects. Unfortunately, these aren't included in the Osborne version because of disk and memory considerations. Too bad, but then I didn't want to be a bulletin board SYSOP anyhow.

KAMAS is a whale of a value. I don't know how it stacks up against "outline processors" running in MS-DOS. And I don't know if there's any competition amongst CP/M software. But it is easily the best-thought-out system I've found. Compusophic Systems (and authors Adam Trent and Anne Hickman) are to be commended.

* * * * * * *

Reportmaker and Dataplotter

by Jeffrey A. Hart

Reportmaker 2.0
Ruff Software
price = $130 (includes manual)

Dataplotter 1.5
Lark Software
price = $50 (includes manual)

The purpose of graphics software such as the two packages in this review is to give you a way of presenting your data visually so that they convey information in a parsimonious yet striking manner. The ideal graphics package would allow you to present data in a wide variety of formats, with unlimited data points, multiple lines or curves, sophisticated labelling procedures, and, of course, would be very simple to use. Unfortunately, this sort of graphics software does not yet exist for microcomputers. Even on mainframes and minis, graphics packages tend to sacrifice flexibility for ease of use.

Reportmaker is a graphics package which is inexpensive, yet produces high quality graphics in a variety of presentation formats from a relatively small data set. It is also quite easy to use, as it makes extensive use of menus and is supplied with a terse yet adequate instruction manual. As long as you are not interested in graphing long time-series or do not need to see more than five curves on any one graph, then Reportmaker will be quite satisfactory for your needs. Reportmaker has a number of unusual and useful features which will be described below.

Dataplotter is harder to use than Reportmaker and does not allow you to draw pie charts or bar graphs, only line graphs. Also it is quite slow in execution, at least on my machine (an Osborne 1). Its main advantages are that it has no limits on the number of data points to be plotted or on the number of lines or curves. Like Reportmaker, it produces high quality line graphs which can be used for publication. Dataplotter, unlike Reportmaker, is not menu driven, although it takes advantage of the interactive nature of microcomputer processing and comes with a well written manual. One other major advantage of Dataplotter is that it is possible (although not terribly easy) to read data from your spreadsheet, database, or word processing software. This cannot be done with Reportmaker. Finally, Dataplotter allows you to write an instruction file for your graphs so that you don't have to answer all the questions every time you want to do a new graph. Both Reportmaker and Dataplotter save the data and instructions for a particular graph so that you can improve it in later sessions without starting from scratch.

I reviewed the CP/M-80 versions of these two programs on my Osborne 1, double density machine. Reportmaker is available for IBM-PC and XT (and some IBM compatible machines), DEC Rainbow, Kaypro (models 2, 4 and 10), Apple II, IIe and III with CP/M, Sanyo MDS-5500, and Hitachi KDF. Dataplotter is available in CP/M-86, PC-DOS, and MS-DOS versions, which will run on any sixteen bit machine with those operating systems (theoretically). It runs faster on 16 bit machines, according to Lark Software. These programs must be used in conjunction with dot matrix printers (they don't work with letter quality printers). Reportmaker is currently available for Epson, Gemini, C. Itoh, and Okidata printers. A version designed for an Epson printer, like mine, will not necessarily work for other printers. Generally speaking, you will not be able to view graphics on your terminal with these programs, although both are being upgraded and future versions may offer this as an option with terminals with high resolution graphics capabilities.

Reportmaker

The main menu of Reportmaker looks like this:

```
ENTER (P)ie chart generation program
ENTER (G)raph generation program
ENTER (H)eading generation program
ENTER (R)eportmaker print program
ENTER (W)ordstar
ENTER (L)ETTERMAKER (Option)
ENTER (C)P/M .. (D)OS operating system

SELECT:_
```

Reportmaker handles pie charts separately from graphs. The pie chart program is a model of simplicity. When you select P you get the following menu:

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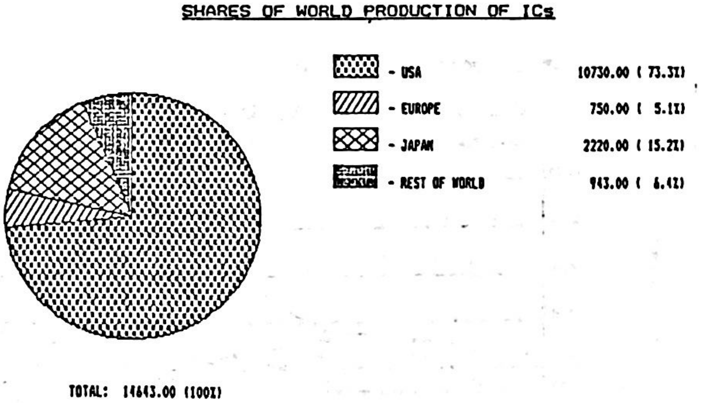
```
PIE CHART GENERATION PROGRAM

# --- VALUE ---- DESCRIPTION -------------- EXPLODE ------
1.......................................................
2.......................................................
3.......................................................
4.......................................................
5.......................................................
TITLE:
_________________________________________________________
[E]dit--[D]elete--[C]hange title--[P]rint Pie
[R]ead file--[S]ave file--[Q]uit PIE

INPUT COMMAND:_
```

This is all pretty self-explanatory. To enter data you input E as a command, to delete all the data you input D, etc. Reportmaker automatically gives saved files a .PIE extension and allows you to see a directory of your data disk before you save or read a file (very convenient).

Reportmaker also has the unusual capability of integrating charts or graphs into text files, a capability which if my luck holds, I will demonstrate to you write now. Here, for example, is a pie chart I drew with some data taken from my current research on industrial policy in the largest industrialized nations:



You can see from this example that the pie charts generated by Reportmaker are very easy to read. The pie chart program automatically calculates percentage shares (in parentheses to right of original data entries) and totals (below pie chart). You can "explode" sections of the pie chart to emphasize them. An exploded section looks like a slice of pie which has been cut and partially removed from the pie but not yet transferred to a plate for eating.

If you choose the G command from the main menu you get another menu for the drawing of a variety of graphs. This menu allows you to draw bar graphs and line graphs of several varieties. Plain bar graphs and line graphs are familiar to all of us. Reportmaker allows you also to draw "stacked" or cumulative bar and line graphs, and even will shade in the spaces between the lines on graphs more or less the same way it shades in sections of pie graphs (see appended examples).

Reportmaker also allows you to design headings for your graphs or your letterheads using a bit-mapped graphics routine which allows you to fill in little squares on a large rectangular matrix of squares. The package comes with an example, a map of Canada.

Finally, Reportmaker lets you embed graphs into a WordStar text file and then lets you print the whole thing in one piece with the Reportmaker PRINT program. You have to insert 25 carriage returns in the text to make room for the graph (which limits you to two graphs per page in a standard 54 line WordStar page. It all works, and it works reasonably fast because Reportmaker is completely written in Intel Assembler language. One feature which knocked me out was the ability to print full page graphs, which requires a 180 degree rotation of the graph image.

The package does have some liabilities: 1) it cannot accept more than nine slices in a pie graph or 12 data points in a bar or line graph, 2) it is relatively inflexible about labelling (no provision for cutting and pasting labels as in Dataplotter), and 3) it does not read data from spreadsheets, database programs or even generic ASCII files (you have to key in data for every new graph, which it then saves in a special file format). When Reportmaker was originally marketed, it required you to use a "configuration diskette" to get the programs working. The configuration diskette was copy-protected. However, when the Canadian firm that wrote Reportmaker closed up shop, they sent a letter telling everyone who bought the program that you could get it to work without the configuration diskette simply by typing <ESC>^E (escape key, and control E) when prompted to insert that diskette.

To summarize, Reportmaker 2.0 is a very neat little graphics package and is likely to be quite useful for businessmen and social scientists with small amounts of data to display in an eye-catching manner. It is very easy to use. For big data sets or long time-series you may want to look elsewhere for graphics programs.

Dataplotter is not limited in this way but is somewhat harder to use. Here is how it works. First, you have to get your data into an ASCII file so that all the x and y values are either in separated sets of lines or in columns. The columnar data can alternate (two columns, one for x and the other for y) or it can be listed sequentially (one column, x's first, y's second). All the data must be in integer format. You are supplied with some programs to transform your data into the proper format for Dataplotter, but these were a bit too complicated for my taste, and I ended up using my SuperCalc 2 program to do it.

Once you have the data set up correctly on your disk B you boot a program called PREPLOT on disk A and it asks you lots of questions about how you want your graph to look. These are the questions:

```
What kind of graph? (l) line or (s) scatterplot?
(x) and y coordinates, or (y) coordinates only?
Do x and y coordinates (a) alternate in the file, or do all x's
come (b)efore all y's?
Width of box in inches?
Height of box in inches?
(A)utomatic or (M)anual scaling?
Do you want x axis labels to be changed from .......?
```

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```
Title for x-axis?
Do you want y axis labels to be changed from .......?
Title for y-axis?
How many of the next ... points go together? These points will be
represented by the same symbol. In a line graph, points groups
together this way will be connected in order to make up the dif-
ferent functions.
   Type a number to indicate which symbol should be plotted
(0)no symbols (lines only on a line graph)
(1) open circles
(2) thick circles
(3) filled circles
(4) open squares
(5) thick squares
(6) filled squares
(7) open diamonds
(8) thick diamonds
(9) filled diamonds
(10) X's
(11) Open x's
Type a number to indicate what size the symbol should be
(1) tiny
(2) small
(3) medium
(4) large
(5) huge
(6) enormous
```

At this point, the PREPLOT program tells you to "Please wait a few moments." It really means it. Dataplotter is very flexible, as attested to by the above set of questions, but it is also pretty slow. A graph of around thirty data points with two functions could take around five minutes to set up at this point. Leah Larkey of Lark Software told me that this was really unusual (it may be something peculiar to Osbornes, I suppose). Once PREPLOT is done, you invoke the PLOT program to actually plot the graph. That also is not fast but the results are visually quite good (sample appended). The resulting graphs are of publishable quality.

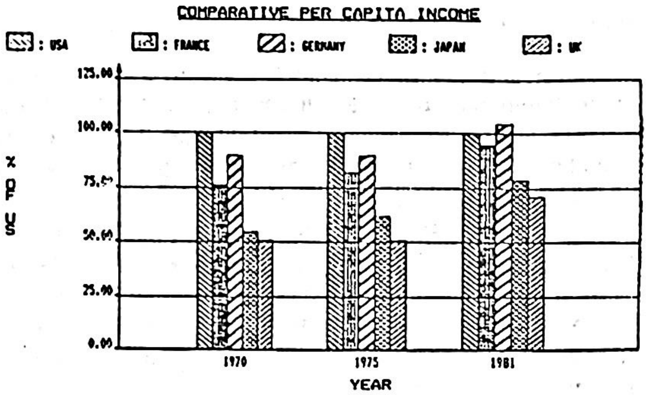
The advantages of Dataplotter, therefore, are: 1) capability of handling large numbers of data points and curves, 2) ability to read data generated by spreadsheets and database programs if properly formatted in an ASCII file, 3) sharp high resolution, high quality results, and 4) high degree of flexibility. The disadvantages are: 1) slow execution on certain 8-bit machines (mine), 2) requirement that data be in integer format and in no more than two columns, 3) difficulty of learning how to use the software and somewhat sketchy manual, and 4) lack of bar and pie chart capability.

The new version of Dataplotter will be available in August. It will allow for more flexible data formats, more types of graphics (including bar and pie charts) and will cost $99. They will sell you the new line graph program separately for $69 (ditto for the bar/pie graph program).

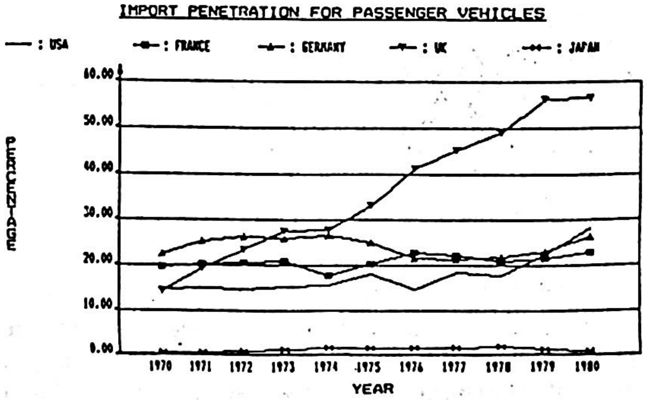
In summary, Dataplotter is a more flexible but somewhat harder to learn graphics package than Reportmaker. It would be particularly useful for people with lots of datapoints, who like to use spreadsheets and database programs.

The trend these days is integrating graphics and other types of software (database, spreadsheet and/or statistical). The dream product will be a package that does all of the above, is interactive, menu-driven, flexible, powerful (capable of handling large data sets), fast, and cheap. Don't hold your breath, especially on the last item, but if we lobby for these things they may come. In the meantime, satisfy yourself with programs like Reportmaker and Dataplotter.

EXAMPLE OF REPORTMAKER BAR GRAPH



EXAMPLE OF REPORTMAKER LINE GRAPH



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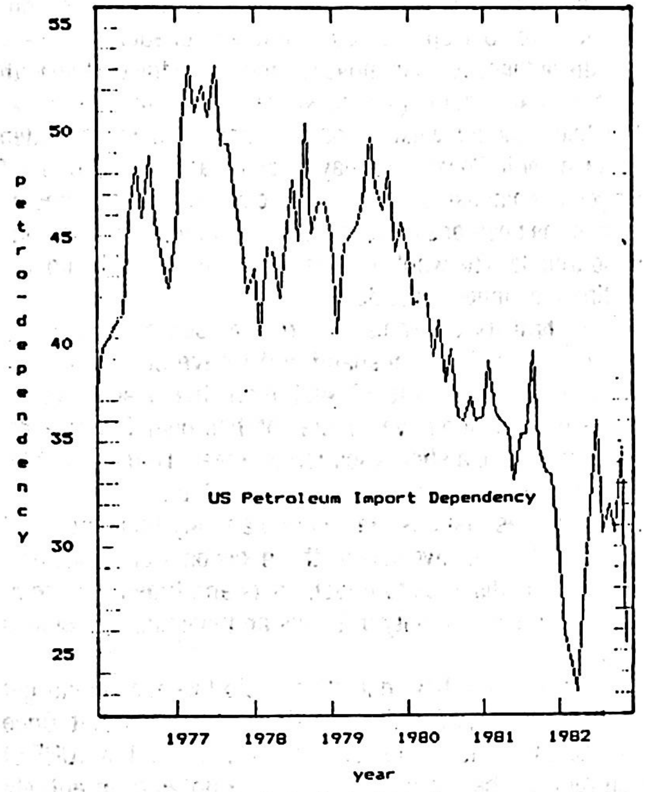
EXAMPLE OF DATAPLOTTER LINE GRAPH



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Brief Review of

TAXPAD 1984

Income Tax Program

by Bob Schwimmer

I recently ordered and promptly received my copy of TAXPAD 1984 from the software house named Application Engineering. This was advertised on page 43 of the January ***FOGHORN***.

My taxes are not real simple, so I believe I gave it a fair but still incomplete test. Obviously it is too soon to have extensive results. However I believe this may help those who are on the fence as to ordering it.

It is entirely based on SuperCalc spreadsheet templates, either SC, SC2 or SC3. I ran it on my 0-1 52/DD machine. It occupies two full diskettes and uses every directory assignment available (64). It is loaded with eXecute files and uses full memory of the 0-1. All transfers between forms are possible with eXecute commands. Invoke an eXecute command and the screen comes alive with action.

It even prints automatically, when so instructed, arranging clear space borders to satisfy IRS. Using as many forms as needed you never even need to key a name or social security number more than once.

The documentation is good enough for getting you started with the templates; in this respect it is thorough and easy to follow. An hour's study and 'play' made me confident enough. I intend to use it also to prepare taxes for others; I think it's that good.

You do need to know and use the tax instructions and knowledge of IRS requirements. It does not teach taxes. It does not handle state or local forms or amended returns. I imagine there are other exceptions to its functions, but I believe they are minor. For form 1040 it does not prepare a submittable copy of pages 1 and 2 for the IRS, because as the supplier states the signature forms must not be computer substitutes. (Some tax systems print these pages and then ask you to place a supplied overlay film over the printed skeleton sheet for photocopying.). All other forms which the Taxpad system covers are submittable to IRS.

I had occasion to talk to the owner of Application Engineering and his wife and they were very helpful. I thought I had a bug; Mr. Graham got on his 0-1 and dug into it right away. It was not a bug!

If you have been doing your own taxes or for your friends you'll probably like Taxpad. At $45.00 (plus UPS) I consider it a great value and adequate for almost any personal federal income tax requirements. But don't expect it to replace a tax advisor!

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KAMAS: A Review

by Marybeth Highton

When that first small ad announcing KAMAS, a Knowledge and Mind Amplification System, appeared in the ***FOGHORN***, I was intrigued. As a commercial free-lance writer with a dozen or so advertising and public relations agencies for clients, I have long wanted software that was an outline generator. I felt that the productivity I get from using my Osborne 1 with WordStar would take another leap forward if I could sort and organize the information I use to create brochures, feature stories, technical films and ad campaigns.

KAMAS seemed to promise that, so I ordered it even before addressing the double density upgrade needed to run the software. I then got the Nuevo DD upgrade and their 80-column enhancement installed by local electronics whiz and fellow Tidewater Osborne Group member Calvin Campbell.

It all works like a charm — especially KAMAS.

I've seen several reviews in computer publications that stress the complexity and difficulty of learning KAMAS. I don't agree.

This software is a multi-level program which starts with an easy-to-learn outline generator and proceeds to unfold into a self-contained programming language.

True, when you open the package and take out the large manuals, Volumes I and II plus a separate, shorter manual, "Introduction to Outline Processing," you get a sense that you're about to get into some heavy stuff. But if you buy your Osborne 1, Kamas package from Spite Software, as I did, you get excellent advice on this score.

Spite strongly advises new users not to even look at Volume I and II material for several weeks. They suggest that you learn

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and use the outline processing capabilities first. I took their advice and am glad I did.

Certainly, KAMAS has a great deal of complexity; anything powerful, flexible and variable enough to call itself a "knowledge processor" would have to be somewhat complex. But think of it this way. If, when you had gone into first grade your teacher had presented you not only with your cute little primary reader but also with the works of Shakespeare, Dickens, and all the great writers and philosophers, well, you'd have probably run home crying, right? I would have.

That, in essence, is the situation you're presented with when you open your KAMAS package. You're looking at a lifetime supply of knowledge processing tools and documentation. So it really makes sense to do as Spite suggests. The little Outline Processing manual is analogous to your first "Dick and Jane" reader. (Do kids still get those readers in first grade? Or am I betraying my age?)

Another suggestion. I got a big piece of posterboard from the local art supply store and, in inch-high letters, wrote a complete list of all the KAMAS commands needed to accomplish outline processing. I mount it on my bulletin board when I use the program and eliminate the need to pore over the manual. It has made learning much faster and less stressful.

There are more advantages to buying the Spite KAMAS Package. Spite, and only Spite, has an Osborne 1 version with special KAMAS-to-WordStar features.

The Spite people prevailed upon the program's author, Adam Trent, to provide them with a version which more closely duplicates WordStar commands for word processing. It also includes a utility program , KTOWS.COM, that converts KAMAS output to WordStar-compatible files.

What this means to writers is that many of the KAMAS editing commands now mirror the WordStar commands you're familiar with — Control Y for deletion, Control Q for searching, and so on. It also means that you can develop your outline in KAMAS, bring it as far up to speed as needed to begin a final writing draft of your project, then transfer the whole thing over to another file using KTOWS.COM. Then you just remove KAMAS from A drive, replace it with your WordStar disk, enter that newly-created file that's on drive B, and do the final polishing job on your project. It's a very clean and efficient way to create a document.

What makes it that way is the KAMAS structure. You create an outline, and "behind" that outline you can file pages of information on each topic line.

Here's the way I picture what's happening. Hold in your mind the image of a piece of that blue-lined loose-leaf paper you used in school. Now make it into a three-dimensional rectangular block, with the lined-paper image on the front of it. Now transform that block into a bureau. Each of the white spaces separated by blue lines is a drawer. On the front of the drawer, you put the several-word point that's an item in your outline. Then you open that "drawer" and can write 200 words or more about the item line, close the "drawer" and go on to another line.

Let's say you get new information. You can go back to a previous line and add to its "drawer's" contents with no trouble whatsoever. Use up to 2,420 characters for each and every line in the outline. You can move up and down the outline with ease, adding information when, where and as you like.

But, like a bureau, what's "inside" each topic line is hidden until you enter it. So you're always looking at the big picture of what you're composing. And as you're doing so, if you decide to switch the positions of points in the outline, it can be done with no trouble. The whole item is simply and quickly moved, including the "inner contents."

For my first try on Kamas, I wrote myself a topic called "Family Vacation". My husband and I have seven children ranging in ages from 14 to 33. All but one live nearby. All but three are married and have children of their own. Every so often we like to take a short vacation together. That's about 20 people of all ages to please and accommodate.

I had four destinations the children and my husband and I were interested in. Involved in the decision were considerations such as distance to travel, costs and types of accommodations, the desirability of tennis and swimming facilities and so on.

You can imagine how quickly a topic like that could get pretty messy. Well, KAMAS made short, neat order of it. Once all the facts were down, it soon became obvious that NONE of the current choices would work. I came up with an entirely new destination based on facts I'd clarified on the outline processor. At the moment, everybody's happy with it — no small achievement.

If there are other writers out there who, like me, are intrigued with information on the human mind, the concepts of cognitive science, the rich lode of research into how we think, and the melding of the computer development and psychological research communities to explore both artificial and "real" intelligence, you'll truly love KAMAS.

It has marvelous chapters on how we think, what Aristotle revealed about our knowledge processes, and how KAMAS translates Aristotelean principles into a knowledge management program. It even has a reading list with dozens of books about the mind. Fascinating. (Sorry, Spite. I did peek in the big blue manuals which is where all this stuff is.)

With these ideas in mind, ponder what happened to me. The first couple of days after I got KAMAS up and running, I stayed on it for as many as eight hours at a crack, fascinated with its promises and anxious to learn its outline commands.

Finally one night, I dropped into bed tired and happy. I was in that "twilight phase" between waking and sleep , mulling some things over in my mind. I started to drift off, and lost track of what I had been thinking about.

"No problem," I told myself sleepily. "Just look for the blinking cursor."

I thought KAMAS was running in my head.

Enough of this. If you're a writer using a CP/M-based system, get KAMAS. You'll love it. It's that simple.

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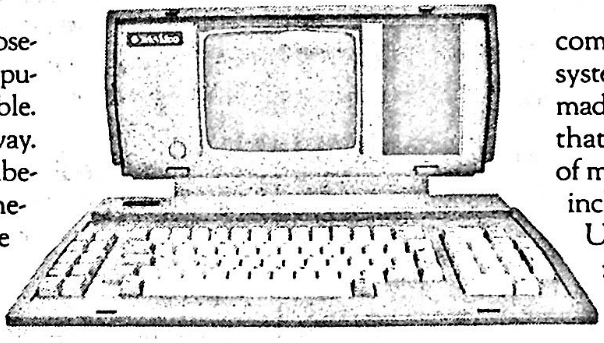
At $795.00, it's almost unbelievable.



Trailing Edge has come across a close-out of some portable personal computers that we found to be irresistable. We think you'll feel the same way. Like any close-out, the price is unbelievably low in exchange for a one-time limited-quantity offer. Unlike most close-outs, however, this product is of extremely high quality and capability, it's expandable, can trade files and programs with many computers of varying diskette formats, has several ease-of-use features, is fully supported by FOG, and is serviced by MISSION PEAK SYSTEMS and its network of service locations.

Powerful: The computer is Televideo's TPC-1, a Z80-based CP/M computer. The TPC-1 comes standard with a 9" screen, two half-height 360K double-sided, double-density 5¼" disk drives, a low profile IBM-type keyboard, Telewrite, a word processor program; TeleCalc, a spreadsheet program; and TeleChart, a business graphics package. Memory is 64K expandable to 128K. In addition to main memory, the TPC-1 also has a 32K screen buffer to handle either the 80x24 character display or a 640x240 bit-mapped graphics display. The alphanumeric displayed character set includes 96 ASCII, 32 control characters, and 10 dual-purpose programmable function keys (20 programmable functions). The operating system is CP/M 2.2 with the GSX graphics extension, or upgradeable to CP/M 3.0 with GSX-86 as the graphics extension.

Reliable: Televideo has become one of the world's top computer and terminal makers, largely on the strength of its rock-solid dependability. This computer is built the same way. It has a solid feel and uses only the highest quality components throughout. A life study on this product show it to be well below industry standards for failures, in short this machine is a work horse.

Expandable: The TPC-1 has ports for Televideo's Supermouse for graphics, a parallel printer port, and a serial modem port. In addition, it can accommodate Televideo's available processor card that can make it part of a Televideo local area network. It is upgradeable to 128K using CP/M 3, and a hard disk upgrade is also available.

Compatible: Because it is a CP/M-based system, there are hundreds of application programs and language compilers available to run on this system. In addition, Trailing Edge has made available UNIFORM, a program that converts files to fit the formats of most popular personal computers, including IBM-PC's and compatibles. UNIFORM enables the TPC-1 to read and play all of the popular CP/M programs, including most of those that come bundled with other CP/M computers.

Comfortable: Televideo's quality of design and construction makes the use of these units comfortable and fatigue-free. The screen is a 9" eye-saving amber display. The Keyboard is low profile and has a built-in wrist rest. Perhaps best of all, is that the system is convection cooled; there is no need for a built-in fan. Operation is almost entirely noiseless.

Serviceable: This is usually the "big catch" with low-cost close-out specials. Not so with this one. We offer a 90-day parts and labor warranty, same as with most computers on the market. In addition, we've made sure that Mission Peak Systems, one of the largest independent service organizations for personal computers, will continue to provide parts and repairs. Mission Peak is probably the biggest service organization specializing in 8-bit systems.

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SYSTEM NOTES

Increased Disk Capacity, 10K — Osborne 1, DD and Executive

by Ernest L. Dryden

I would like to share a discovery concerning a software application which some members may have overlooked. The packages to which I am referring are: (1) Media Master, available from Spectre Technologies and (2) UNIFORM, which it so happens, is available from FOG. For those who may be unfamiliar with either or both of these programs I would refer you to Vol. IV, No. 4 and Vol. IV, No. 1 for a software review of Media Master, and Vol. 3, No. 7 for notes on UNIFORM. Because of these earlier articles and the fact that both programs practically run themselves, I will not go into a tutorial on using either of these programs.

The application which I will be discussing is using UNIFORM and/or Media Master to format a disk as a Kaypro II which will give the disk a 193K (formatted) capacity. This disk may then be used for archiving 10K (or in some cases 8K) more data than is normally possible with the OCC-1 D/D or Executive computers.

Using Media Master: I have successfully tested this method on both the OCC-1 D/D and the Executive computers.

1. Load Media Master in the A drive and place a blank disk in the B drive.
2. Follow the necessary procedure to format the disk in drive B as a Kaypro II disk.
3. Use the Copy file(s) function to transfer the files you wish to archive to the disk in drive B.

With this method it is possible to transfer files totaling up to 193K onto the Kaypro disk. Later when you wish to access these files, it will be necessary to again use Media Master to log in the Kaypro disk and transfer the desired files to an Osborne format disk using the Copy file(s) function.

Using UNIFORM: Since UNIFORM will not work on the Executive this method will only be applicable to those using the OCC-1.

1. Load UNIFORM in drive A and a blank disk in drive B.
2. Use option 2 to first format the disk in drive B as a Kaypro II disk, then option 1 to log in drive B as a Kaypro II.
3. You may then use PIP or NSWPxxx (that's NSWEEP or New SWEEP, if you don't have this utility go out this very minute and get it. It's in most libraries and on most RCP/Ms) to transfer files to this disk.

With drive B logged in as a Kaypro II, the directory utility which I use, D.COM, will indicate that the Kaypro II disk has a 193K capacity and PIP will transfer 193K to such a disk. Using this procedure with NSWP207 I get a disk full message after transferring 191K to the Kaypro II disk. I don't know if this is attributable to an error in the program itself, or is some idiosyncrasy of the system *[can systems have those?]* which I am using (see note below). If however, you first fill the disk to capacity (193K), NSWP will display the correct disk capacity, and will in fact use all 193K even if some files are erased and the empty space refilled.

In the future you may use UNIFORM to log in drive B as a Kaypro II and use your choice of a file transfer utility to access your files and copy them to an Osborne formatted disk.

Notes:

1. Using the "setdisk" option, of UNIFORM, will cause drive B to retain the specified format until a reset/power down. You will be reminded of the current configuration each time a warm boot is executed.
2. My Osborne 1 is a blue-case double density model with the 1.44 ROM. It has been upgraded with the OCC-SCREENPAC. My Executive has the 1.21 ROM and version 1.1 BIOS. Other systems may behave differently.

I would be interested in hearing from other members concerning this topic. Perhaps someone can explain why, after using UNIFORM to log in the disk onto drive B, and accessing this drive with NSWP207, only 191K is usable unless the disk is first filled to capacity with PIP or the Copy file(s) function of Media Master. If necessary, maybe someone can supply a patch for NSWP207 so it will allow a formatted Kaypro II disk to accept 193K.

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Send £ and § from WordStar to an Epson

by Robert Stocking

In the March issue, W. Ernst Eder describes a method for patching an Epson MX-80F/T printer with Graftrax, but notes that his method cannot access the British Pound sign and the European paragraph symbol and graphics characters. If a limited number of these characters are needed you can use the WordStar "Install" Program. To do this you may have to decide that one or more of WordStar's features is not needed. The strike out [may be a good choice, unless you are an] attorney. If you don't use this feature you can change it to some character which will be of use to you.

To patch the Pound sign to this location place a copy of your WordStar program which is not write protected in your A drive. If this is from a cold boot press **RETURN** and when the WordStar menu appears press **X** to get the A> prompt. At the prompt type **Install**↵ and at the first "PLEASE ENTER SELECTION (A, B, C, D):" question, type **B**. You then will be asked a series of four questions about terminal, printer, communications protocol and driver menus. If you have already used SETUP.COM to configure your system, you can respond to each of these questions with a **U** "no change" and then a **Y** to confirm your choice. You will then be asked if your changes are complete. You should answer **N** for no.

Since either the Label or the Hex Address can be used to access the location to be changed, I will use the Label because addresses sometimes change between versions of WordStar. The label for the Strike-over section is SOCHR. Type this. You will see the name of the location to be changed and its Hex address, and the current (old) value of the character at that location. You will also see: "NEW VALUE:". If you want the British Pound sign type **81**; if you prefer the European paragraph symbol type **85**. These are the Hex codes Epson uses for these characters, and they are given in the back of the Epson manual along with the codes for other characters which cannot be accessed directly from the Osborne 1 keyboard. The manual has both Hex and Decimal tables; so be sure you use the Hex table for this patch.

To use the pound sign or other character, you need to remember that the strike out character like the underline character does not work on blank spaces. You cannot just type **^PX** to get the pound character. It is a toggle and you will have a string of pound signs covering up all your following text if you don't turn it off. You also have to give it something to overstrike. To get a pound sign you need to type: **^PX^PF^PX** which will appear on your screen as: ^X^F^X. The ^PF is the "phantom character" control code and gives the pound sign something to "strike over".

This is a brute force method of accessing additional characters on your Epson printer. Still more characters could be put in the four user-defined locations, but most of us use them for other purposes which require longer character strings. The SOCHR location is rarely if ever used by many of us and seems to be a good location for accessing an extra character.

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Recovering Crashed Disks, Directories With Disk Doctor and DU

by Bob Hodgson

Should one use DU or Disk Doctor to recover a crashed disk? Sooner or later, all of us are likely to receive the message, "BDOS ERROR ON DRIVE B" on a disk which was not properly backed up. When this happened to me recently, I tried Disk Doctor, then DU to recover my damaged diskette. I thought the experience I gained, starting from scratch, might be useful to others.

Disk Doctor

Past use of Disk Doctor had been frustrating. The dealership where it had been purchased tried unsuccessfully to obtain help from the Osborne Corporation. Consequently, it sat unused for over two years. The note by Owens (III:6, March '84) is essential, if this software is to be installed on a double density machine. With Disk Doctor properly installed, the instructions given by Laumeister (IV:6, March '85) were followed for transferring files from a disk with a damaged directory. It worked! However, the real chore had just begun — reconstructing the directory by examining the data on the "transfer" disk. Following Laumeister's scheme, FILTER (FOG/UTL.044) was used in an attempt to remove EOF's. Because this was unsuccessful and for other reasons mentioned below, I accepted the task of learning how to use DU.

The difficulty with the method discussed by Laumeister is that CP/M does not write files in contiguous groups. For example, CP/M might store a file in groups 4, 5, 6, and 4B. A lot of editing would be needed to recover this file by sorting all the logical groups (200) on a disk. In addition, the number of sectors in each file (information needed by the directory) would require computation. Although many shorter files are constructed in sequential groups, some are not. Consequently, recovering all the files from a disk would be a tedious operation. Finally, I should mention that FILTER would not read past a database file on my disk, seriously limiting its utility in this application unless all files on the damaged disk were text files. I did not try CHGCHAR.COM.

DU

Faced with the above problems, I sought help from my friends in HOG (Humboldt Osborne Group) and they mentioned the disk utility program DU in the FOG library. The more I read (and used) DU, the more I liked it. Based on my experience, I would use Disk Doctor, if at all, only to create a backup copy before doing surgery with DU. The following is a synopsis of how I would now approach the reconstruction of a disk after receiving a BDOS error which prevented access to drive B.

I would heartily recommend that the first approach taken to repair a damaged directory should be the "fix" discussed by Dunaway in III:7. It worked for me, recovering the diskette in less than a few minutes. This approach seems to work when the directory "looks o.k." but can not be accessed by software such as WordStar, SuperCalc, etc. If the directory is partially or completely trashed, then Disk Doctor may be useful for copying the disk before trying surgery.

If the directory is virtually all trashed, then I would suggest the methods given by Hulse (III:10 July '84) and by Heussner (IV:6, March '85). These use the latest version of DU, DU2V18 on FOG/UTL.044.

For gaining an understanding of how DU works, I recommend excellent articles by Hurst (II:12,III:1, and III:8; Sept., Oct. '83, and May '84) and Riggs (IV:4, Jan '85.). Interesting applications of DU are given by Halava (III:8, May '84) to reduce drive access and speed up system response, and by Bliss (III:12, Sept. '84) to utilize unused disk storage.

Another utility which may be of use in recovering disks with damaged directories is REGROUP (Author unknown, IV:3, Dec. '84).

Though I have not tried each of the above applications of DU, I hope the bibliography will be useful to those trying to

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assemble appropriate information on recovering from disks with damaged directories, and in general, on the use of DU.COM.

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Tips; WordStar, dBASE II and FK.COM

by Allan R. Pratt

Here are some solutions for problems that I have had in WordStar and dBASE II, v2.4.

WordStar

I have had a problem with the myriad of patches for blinking cursors, speeding up of screen changes, etc. that have been published or added to the library for version 3.3. I have found that after I had properly installed WordStar for my printer and added the speedup patch, the others didn't do exactly what I thought they should do. In all this, all I really wanted was a blinking cursor and an automatic log to drive B.

The solution to this is really very simple. WordStar always loads first the directory of the logged or default drive before it allows you to change the logged drive with the "L" command. To get around this we remove the AUTOST.COM program from the WordStar disk (all it does is slow down the process with the flying "O" and take up disk space), and set one of the function keys (I use 0) to:

```
B:↩A:WS↩
```

This changes the logged drive to B and calls WordStar from A.

To get the blinking cursor, run, don't walk to your nearest FOG library or RBBS if you have a modem and get a copy of OBIOSPT.COM from FOG/OS1.002. This program literally runs in seconds and not only gives you a variable rate blinking cursor, but also screen dump and clear screen features. This blinking cursor, by the way, works on almost everything except SuperCalc. The screen dump works with SuperCalc, but the first line (the column letters) is not included.

dBASE II, v.2.4

dBASE II v2.4 allows the use of data entry screens for the addition and editing of data, by using the command SET FORMAT TO. One problem I have had is that when using these screens for editing, it is impossible to mark a record for deletion using the ^U (control U), as can be used with normal editing. Even two phone calls to the Ashton-Tate help line failed to turn up a solution.

To overcome this, all that is necessary is to change the key that you use to mark the deletion. For example, if the first field that is encountered in editing a record is NAME, simply use ^Y to delete the contents of only that field for records that you want to delete. After you exit from the editing routine, issue the command:

```
DELE ALL FOR NAME="                    "
```

This will mark for deletion all records that you have deleted the name for, and the database can be PACKed normally. This fix will work both inside and outside command files.

Function Keys

When you get a copy of FOG/OS1.002, get the .001 disk as well — for a real gem of a program. FK.COM lets you store and maintain 8 sets of function keys for each copy of FK.COM on your disk and best of all it takes up almost no space.

In addition, each of the 8 sets of keys allows you more space than your SETUP currently allows.

For example, your SuperCalc disk contains several spreadsheets, each with their own peculiarities for blanking data, saving, printing reports, etc. You could set your regular function keys to call that subset of FK.COM that is appropriate for that worksheet.

The key definitions load superfast and have the additional advantage of not creating additional key definition files for each set, as does SUPERSET.COM. This really is a must for anyone who maintains a hard disk, or just wants to take the best advantage of the function key capability of their Osborne.

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Vixen Drive "Door" Repair

by Paul Florance

Little boys break their new toys.

At a writer's retreat, in the mountains, last weekend, there was a Vixen. And it died. Sort of.

It seems the little lever inside the floppy slot vanished from sight, and it became impossible to flip the levers that lock down the drives. A weekend of productivity hung in the balance. Exploratory surgery was recommended.

And this is how it's done . . .

To remove the plastic case: Remove the 4 screws from the front panel. Loosen the center (silver) screw on the bottom of the unit (the one just behind the keyboard). Gently pry the front away. The top is held, in the center, by a plastic snap. The keyboard is now free. (At this point, care must be taken not to damage the linking cable.)

Lay the little guy on his back and remove the four screws, plus the two from the back panel. Roll him back over and remove the gray plastic top.

Remove the four sheet metal screws holding the drives in place and the two screws holding the ground straps to the drive unit. Disconnect the power cables from both drives (not to worry, they only fit one way) and disconnect the gray ribbon cable.

Open the drive unit by removing three (one is already out) machine screws and lifting off the top. Turn the drive unit over and remove the four bottom machine screws. Unplug the drives from each other. Remove the bottom cover.

The problem lies in the little black plastic arm that blocks a cam on the lock-lever. (You can compare the broken lock-lever apparatus to the working one on the other drive.) Also absent was a short metal pin that holds the arm in place. The plastic arm was found, jammed in the drive, and the metal pin was under the mother board. (We recovered it by gently "rock-n-rolling" the unit.)

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To affect a repair, the pin was just pressed back into the plastic housing from which it had come. A little glue helped. A quick plug-in test proved the patient well and able to return to duty.

Curiously, it appears that the arm can be done away with as well as the spring wrapped pin that blocks the cam. The only problem is, it would then be possible for the drive heads to come in contact with each other. And I am sure that no good would come of that encounter.

To put things back: Reinstall the drive wires in the one-way plug. Screw the bottom panel on the drives. Plug them back together. Install the top panel loosely with machine screws. Place the drive unit in the Vixen and replace the gray ribbon cable onto the plug with the cable leading toward the front. Reinstall the power plugs. Start the four screws that retain the drive unit. Start the two screws in the braces from the drive to the monitor. (Make sure to install one ground strap to the monitor; one to the drives.) Tighten all screws, ONLY when all is in place and lined up.

Place the cover over the top and, while holding the unit together, turn it over and install the four silver screws into the bottom, snugly. (Careful, the keyboard is still loose!) Install the rear panel and the two screws. Stand Vix on his tail and slide the face plate in place (watch the bottom slotted screw, make sure it is lined up.) Snap the cover in place and tighten the bottom screw. Install the last four face plate screws.

It might be possible to unplug the key board, but we found that it wasn't really much trouble to work around it.

And thus all is well in the land of our little buddy.

* * * * * * *

Memory Mapped WordStar 3.3 (Adapted from a patch from CompuServe's CP/M Interest Group, CP/MIG)

by Randy Cassingham

The following patch makes WordStar version 3.3 use Osborne's Memory Mapped Video for BLINDING speed during scrolling (^C/^R), search and replace, and other Quick (^Q) functions. It will work on the Executive or the O-1.

Notes:

- Use SID or DDT for this patch, NOT the '+' command in the install program (it won't let you patch some of these areas). SID's prompt is the #; DDT's is the -.
- Be sure not to confuse zero with "O" — there is no letter "O" in this patch.
- There is a side effect to this patch: what is normally DIM (menus, etc.) will appear in REVERSE on the Exec and UNDERLINED on the O-1. ALSO, this patch may not work if you have something special patched at MORPAT.) — ALWAYS MAKE A BACKUP COPY OF WORDSTAR FIRST!

[The characters that you will type are shown in **boldface**. *Type RETURN (⊃) after each entry.]*

⇨

The Patch:

```
A> SID WS.COM
(sid's messages . . .)
# S0290
0290 xx 01  (NOTE: SID shows what is already there (xx) in the
            address you are changing. I will NOT show what is
            already there . . .)
0291 00
0292    > if Executive enter: F0 — if Osborne-1: C0
0293 80
0294 80
0295 00
0296 .↵  (hit period then ↵ to get back to SID's prompt)
# S2074
2074 3E
2075 80
2076 00
2077 .
# S2098
2098 2E
2099 80
209A 00
209B .
# S2355
2355 3E
2356 80
2357 00
2358 .
# S3BDF
3DBF 21
3DC0 18
3DC1 00
3DC2 .
```

That finishes it for the O-1. For Execs, continue with:

```
# S02A3
02A3 3E
02A4 41
02A5 D3
02A6 00
02A7 C9
02A8 ↵
02A9 3E
02AA 01
02AB D3
02AC 00
02AD C9
02AE .
# S0287
0287 C3
0288 CB
0289 02
028A C3
028B D8
028C 02
028D .
# S02CB
02CB 0E
02CC 09
02CD 11
02CE D4
02CF 02
02D0 CD
02D1 05
02D2 00
02D3 C9
02D4 1B
02D5 2E
02D6 30
02D7 24
02D8 0E
02D9 09
02DA 11
02DB E1
02DC 02
02DD CD
02DE 05
02DF 00
02E0 C9
02E1 1B
02E2 2E
02E3 32
02E4 24
02E5 .
```

TO SAVE: if you use SID, you DON'T need the SAVE program (ever!). Just type **Wws.com** at the # prompt (that stands for WRITE ws.com — the default is from 0100h to END). Use the normal procedure for saving from DDT.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

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Please refer to **FOG MEMBER MERCHANDISE** in this issue for information on obtaining back issue copies of the ***FOGHORN***. We maintain an inventory of back issues because the information contained in them can save you hours of aggravation!

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

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dBASE II

Four Tips for dBASE II

by Jeff Kasavan

The following NIFTY tips are my first chance to contribute some useful information to a publication that has provided me with great help. Input from users to help other users is the "magic" key to the success of the ***FOGHORN*** and to the strength of the users groups. *[I wholeheartedly agree. David]*

This is for version 2.3B and 2.4.

I Use the *** WHILE *** Command

At the winery we keep most of the analyses of our wines in a database file called MONTHLY.DBF. This file has the following structure:

```
STRUCTURE FOR FILE:   MONTHLY.DBF
NUMBER OF RECORDS:    00194
DATE OF LAST UPDATE:  11/22/84
PRIMARY USE DATABASE
FLD      NAME       TYPE   WIDTH  DEC
001      DATE        C      008
002      LOT:CODE    C      005
003      LOT:NO      N      005
004      TYPE        C      006
005      TANK        C      005
006      GALLONS     N      007
007      ALC         N      006    002
008      BRIX        N      005    001
009      TA          N      005    002
010      UVA         N      006    003
011      CVA         N      006    003
012      RS          N      005    002
013      ORA         N      003
014      FS02        N      004
015      TS02        N      004
016      CU          N      005    002
017      FE          N      005    002
018      PH          N      005    002
019      MALIC       N      005
020      LACTIC      N      005
021      ML          C      003
022      WF          N      005    002
023      CODE        C      001
** TOTAL **                00115
```

A related index file called TYPE.NDX is used as follows:

```
USE MONTHLY
INDEX ON TYPE+STR(LOT:NO,4)+$(DATE,7,2)+$(DATE,1,5) TO TYPE
```

To quickly find previous analysis for a wine (i.e. Chenin Blanc) these commands are issued:

```
USE MONTHLY INDEX TYPE
FIND CBL
LIST NEXT 20
```

Now, if there are 60 analyses for Chenin Blanc to review I would have to **LIST NEXT 20** two more times in order to view all those analyses. That's fine IF I know how many Chenin Blanc analyses I have. IF I DON'T KNOW, I might issue the command **LIST NEXT 20** a fourth time, only to watch the screen start scrolling on to the Dry Muscat wine analyses. As an alternative, I could . . .

```
USE MONTHLY INDEX TYPE
FIND CBL
LIST NEXT 200
```

and then hit the ESC key once the screen started in with the analyses of the next wine type.

Well there IS ANOTHER WAY! I have not seen this feature documented anywhere in the dBASE II documentation. HOT FLASH! I just saw this feature mentioned in ***dNEWS*** published by Ashton Tate, Vol. 1, No. 5, October, 1983, on page 14, in the **Technical Hotline** column. It's from Peter Backus of Software Solutions, Inc. Honolulu, Hawaii:

```
USE MONTHLY INDEX TYPE
FIND CBL
LIST WHILE TYPE='CBL'
```

This will scroll the analyses of all the Chenin Blanc wine and then stop! I don't need to know how many analyses are there at all! I bet you weren't aware that you could use WHILE all by itself without having it be part of a DO WHILE loop.

Entering Data to an Indexed File with a Customized Screen

I have written a custom screen program to allow lab techs to enter analytical data into the MONTHLY.DBF. The following shows part of the programming that sets up the screen:

```
ERASE
SET ESCAPE ON
SET TALK OFF
SET CONFIRM ON
SET BELL OFF
*NOTE!!!-Not indexed
USE B:MONTHLY
STORE ' ' TO QUIT
*Set up loop
DO WHILE .NOT. QUIT='X'
*Go to last record in file
GO BOTTOM
STORE 0 TO MNUM
*Puts record number (#) in variable
STORE # TO MNUM
STORE MNUM+1 TO MNUM
*Following 20 commands store data from each field into memory
*variables. This will enable the data entry screen to appear
*with data ALREADY in position. This emulates the dBASE II
*command SET CARRY ON which is used while APPENDing to a file
*and certain data do not change from one record to the next (such
*as the DATE or the TYPE).
```

```
STORE DATE TO MDATE
STORE LOT:CODE TO MLOT:CODE
STORE LOT:NO TO MLOT:NO
STORE TYPE TO MTYPE
STORE TANK TO MTANK
STORE GALLONS TO MGALLONS
STORE ALC TO MALC
STORE BRIX TO MBRIX
STORE TA TO MTA
STORE UVA TO MUVA
STORE CVA TO MCVA
STORE RS TO MRS
STORE ORA TO MORA
STORE FS02 TO MFS02
STORE TS02 TO MTS02
STORE CU TO MCU
STORE FE TO MFE
STORE PH TO MPH
STORE ML TO MML
STORE CODE TO MCODE
*Adds a blank record to the end of the file
APPE BLANK
*Following 20 commands replace to the empty fields in the blank
*record from the memory variables.
REPLACE DATE WITH MDATE
REPLACE LOT:CODE WITH MLOT:CODE
REPLACE LOT:NO WITH MLOT:NO
REPLACE TYPE WITH MTYPE
REPLACE TANK WITH MTANK
REPLACE GALLONS WITH MGALLONS
REPLACE ALC WITH MALC
REPLACE BRIX WITH MBRIX
REPLACE TA WITH MTA
REPLACE UVA WITH MUVA
REPLACE CVA WITH MCVA
REPLACE RS WITH MRS
REPLACE ORA WITH MORA
REPLACE FS02 WITH MFS02
REPLACE TS02 WITH MTS02
REPLACE CU WITH MCU
REPLACE FE WITH MFE
REPLACE PH WITH MPH
REPLACE ML WITH MML
REPLACE CODE WITH MCODE
*Following are the instructions to set up the custom screen
*for data *entry. The GETs pick up the correct data for this
*record.
@ 1,15      SAY 'RECORD #    ' GET MNUM
?
?'PLEASE ENTER DATA FROM THE ANALYSIS SHEET IN'
?'THE APPROPRIATE SPACES BELOW. BE SURE TO CHECK'
?'YOUR WORK BEFORE RESPONDING TO THE CONTINUE PROMPT.'
@ 7,8       SAY 'ANALYSIS DATE?      ' GET DATE PICTURE '99/99/99'
@ 9,0       SAY 'LOT:CODE (2MPMV)    ' GET LOT:CODE
@ 10,0      SAY 'LOT:NO              ' GET LOT:NO
@ 11,0      SAY 'VARIETY             ' GET TYPE
@ 12,0      SAY 'TANK                ' GET TANK
@ 13,0      SAY 'GALLONS              ' GET GALLONS
@ 14,0      SAY 'ALCOHOL              ' GET ALC
@ 15,0      SAY 'BRIX                 ' GET BRIX
@ 16,0      SAY 'TOTAL ACID           ' GET TA
@ 17,0      SAY 'UNCORR. VA           ' GET UVA
@ 18,0      SAY 'CORR. VA             ' GET CVA
@ 19,0      SAY 'RS                   ' GET RS
@ 9,30      SAY 'ORA              ' GET ORA
@ 10,30     SAY 'FREE S02         ' GET FS02
@ 11,30     SAY 'TOTAL S02        ' GET TS02
@ 12,30     SAY 'COPPER ppm       ' GET CU
@ 13,30     SAY 'IRON ppm         ' GET FE
@ 14,30     SAY 'pH               ' GET PH
@ 15,30     SAY 'ML               ' GET ML
@ 16,30     SAY 'MALIC            ' GET MALIC
@ 17,30     SAY 'LACTIC           ' GET LACTIC
@ 18,30     SAY 'WT. FACTOR       ' GET WF
@ 19,30     SAY 'QUALITY CODE     ' GET CODE
@ 22,4 SAY 'ENTER X WHEN DONE, ⮐ TO CONTINUE ' GET QUIT
READ
CLEAR GETS
ENDDO
USE
RETURN
```

As I pointed out above, I USE MONTHLY without the INDEX TYPE. This is due to the following fact. Say I APPEND BLANK to an indexed file and then REPLACE to the fields from the memory variables and then GET the new data for the record. When the program loops around for the next record, the GO BOTTOM command causes the pointer to bring up the last record in the INDEX, not the last record in the FILE. Since I was trying to emulate the SET CARRY ON command this defeated my intent. I might have 20 analyses for French Colombard run on 10/20/84 with the Lot:code A1XYZ. The last record in the INDEX might be Zinfandel run on 08/11/83 and Lot:code B5LMN. Thus each time the program loop ended, I had to reenter 10/20/84 for the DATE, FC for the TYPE, and A1XYZ for the Lot:code. This wasted so much time that I would USE MONTHLY without the INDEX TYPE and then index the file again after all the data had been entered. Of course as the number of records grew so did the time required to index the file. So I gave up indexing the file. Only when I would LIST FOR TYPE='FC' I would have to WAIT a LONG TIME for the program to search through 6 months of data to find all the analyses for French Colombard. I decided there must be an easier way to USE MONTHLY INDEX TYPE and not lose the emulation of the SET CARRY ON.

The following code demonstrates the CLEVER way I found to do this. I have never seen this procedure in any dBASE article, book, or in the documentation:

```
ERASE
SET ESCAPE ON
SET TALK OFF
SET CONFIRM ON
SET BELL OFF
STORE ' ' TO QUIT
```

cont. on page 61

NUEVO ELECTRONICS
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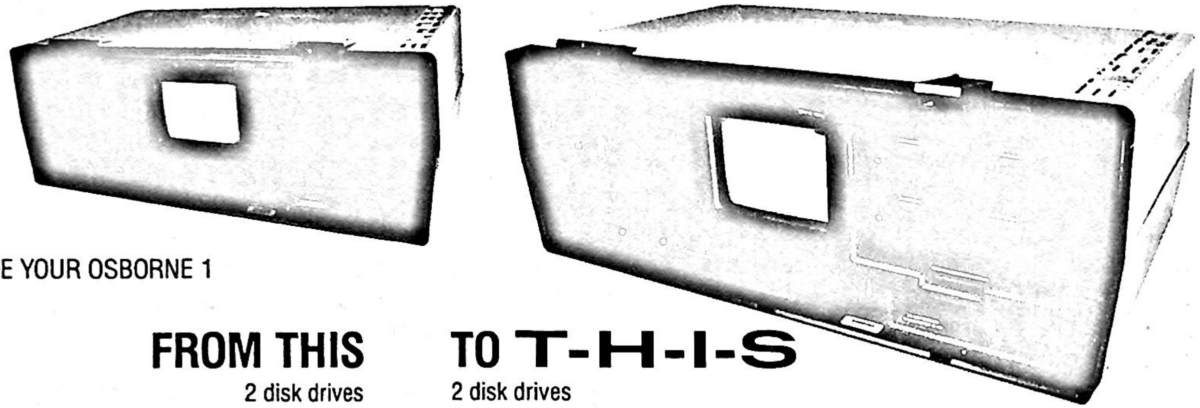

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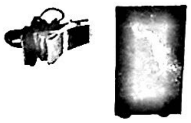

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cont. from page 59

```
DO WHIL .NOT. QUIT='X'
*Now using the indexed version of the file
USE B:MONTHLY INDEX B:TYPE
*''Turns off'' the index
SET INDEX TO
*Pointer goes to last record in the FILE, NOT THE INDEX
GO BOTTOM
*Accomplishes the same as the 20 STORE ..... TO M..... lines
*above.
COPY NEXT 1 TO B:TEMP
STOR 0 TO MNUM
STOR # TO MNUM
STOR MNUM+1 TO MNUM
*''Turns on'' the index file
SET INDEX TO B:TYPE
*Takes place of APPEND BLANK and REPLACE ...... WITH M.....
*lines above. And therefore the screen will display the data
*from the last record in the FILE, not the last record in the
INDEX.
APPEND FROM B:TEMP
*The next line starts setting up the custom screen as above
@ 1,15    SAY 'RECORD # ' GET MNUM
etc. etc. etc.
```

This procedure allows:

1. Use a custom screen for data entry.
2. Emulation of SET CARRY ON.
3. The advantage of INDEXed files for fast data retrieval.

In essence:

1. USE filename.ext INDEX indexfil.
2. SET INDEX TO (to "Turn off" the indexfil).
3. GO BOTTOM (Point at last record in the file).
4. COPY NEXT 1 TO TEMP (Copies data from last record in file to temporary file).
5. SET INDEX TO indexfil (to "Turn on" the indexfil so that when you APPEND a new record, the record will be properly marked in the INDEX).
6. APPEND FROM TEMP (to emulate the SET CARRY ON command).
7. GET the data from the custom screen for the new record.

Save a Key Stroke When Editing Indexed Files

When I need to edit a record in an indexed file I would **FIND S184↵** (the data for this tank), **EDIT &#↵**, and proceed to edit the record. I find I can do as follows: **FIND S184↵, EDIT &↵** and the record that I wanted will be on the screen.

Warning About Memory Variables and Field Names

Here is a subtle problem. I have a program that uses a memory variable called MGALS. I also have a DBF with a field named MGALS. Here is what happens:

```
STORE 1000 TO MGALS
   1000
? MGALS
  1000
USE TEMP    * This file has a field MGALS in it.
? MGALS
  0
DISPLAY MEMORY
MGALS   (N)    1000
** TOTAL **    01 VARIABLES USED      00002 BYTES USED
? MGALS + 50
  50
USE     * To close the TEMP file with the field MGALS.
? MGALS
  1000
DISPLAY MEMORY
MGALS   (N)    1000
** TOTAL **    01 VARIABLES USED      00002 BYTES USED
? MGALS + 50
  1050
```

As I hope you can see from the above, when you USE a DBF that has a FIELD with the same name as a MEMORY VARIABLE, dBASE II manipulates the FIELD, not the MEMORY VARIABLE. This can cause all sorts of strange effects to your programs and give you grey hairs especially since the error is so hard to spot.

I hope some of you are able to benefit from these two tips. They don't even begin to repay so many of you whose articles have helped me. If anyone has any questions on these hints, feel free to call, (209) 436-1008.

• • • • • • •

Comments on dBASE II (version 2.3)

by Dan Connors

I have a love-hate relationship with dBASE II. After having written a lot of database handling programs in BASIC, I have to concede that dBASE does it at least 100 times faster than I can write the code. But the program has the strangest error codes I've ever seen! When in doubt it is a syntax error! Here's a stripped down example of an error that drove me nuts!

```
SET TALK OFF
STORE ''******'' TO TEST
STORE 1 TO COUNTER
DO WHILE COUNTER < 100
     STORE TEST + ''*****'' TO TEST
     STORE COUNTER + 1 TO COUNTER
ENDDO
```

This code should keep on looping, ending with a really long string stored in TEST. The error message is:

```
''TO'' PHRASE NOT FOUND
     STORE TEST + ''*****'' TO TEST
CORRECT AND RETRY (Y/N)? _
```

What will really drive you nuts is listing the memory variables and finding that TEST is a logical variable! What happens is that when the string size exceeds dBASE II's limit, the character variable TEST is converted to a logical! Nuts!

The other one is the feared:

```
END OF FILE ENCOUNTERED UNEXPECTEDLY
```

⇨

or

```
RECORD OUT OF RANGE
```

Sometimes this means the file was abandoned open (which is a bit hard to fix). This happens if you are updating a file, and for some reason change diskettes. This is not healthy! The other time it happens is when you PACK an indexed file. Although the manual says the INDEX is kept up, it isn't. Corrective action: USE the basic filename, PACK it and reINDEX it. Anytime you PACK a file, reindex it.

Notice that it is possible to use more than 2 files in dBASE II if you use them two at a time. To switch files, set up pointers. Example:

```
File 1 pointer is FILE1PTR
File 2 pointer is FILE2PTR
File 3 pointer is FILE3PTR
```

Now assume you are on record 46 in file 1 on the PRIMARY and you need to get into file 3:

```
SELECT PRIMARY
STORE # TO FILE1PTR
USE FILE3
GO FILE3PTR
....
STORE # TO FILE3PTR
USE FILE1
GO FILE1PTR
```

This switch is not nearly as long as you might fear.

What happens when you run out of memory variables? This solution also works when array handling is faster within the routine:

1. Create a database with the type of variable you want in it.
2. Define which record is which (you'll have to keep track).
3. Store the variables in the database.

Example: Let's say you want to find the number of ants in each of 100 anthills. You have the most recent census, however there were 600 census takers (CENSORs?) and the listing you have is totally messed up. Let's say you have 1500 records in a file structured like this:

CENSOR	15 digit character field
ANTHILL	Number field (anthill)
ANTS	Number field (ants)

Obviously, you could sort this by anthill and print and summarize it, but there is no way to keep the 100 subtotals in memory. Create a dummy database with 1 entry:

ANTS	Number field

Call the first file, CENSOR and the second, DUMMY:

```
SELECT SECONDARY
USE DUMMY
STORE 1 TO NUMBER
DO WHILE NUMBER <= 100
     REPLACE ANTS WITH 0
     STORE NUMBER + 1 TO NUMBER
     SKIP
ENDDO WHILE NUMBER <= 100
SELECT PRIMARY
USE CENSOR

DO WHILE .NOT. EOF
     SELECT SECONDARY
     GO P.ANTHILL
     REPLACE ANTS WITH ANTS + P.ANTS
     SELECT PRIMARY
     SKIP
ENDDO WHILE .NOT. EOF
```

When you get finished with file CENSOR, file DUMMY will hold the total for each of the 100 anthills.

We recently became involved with **filling out a form.** We decided to have the computer store the form in memory, and we would fill it in on the screen and have it printed. Some of the typists had trouble doing it in WordStar because the form was surrounded by bars, and if they inserted or deleted the bars didn't line up. Corrective action was to have each entry in the form become a dBASE II field, and have them input the form into dBASE II. After all the fields were entered, a short print program was called which printed the form with the inputs included. Unfortunately, this does not leave a copy of the report in the computer, and there was no way to enter the response on the form. We create a WordStar filename for each of these forms (call it WSFILE). Before printing, type:

SET ALTERNATE TO WSFILE
SET ALTERNATE ON

Do the report, then type:

SET ALTERNATE OFF

When you are finished, switch to WordStar. Your form will be there, however all the commands between the two SET commands will have to be removed (so will the last SET command).

Making a graph: Elementary graphs are possible if you are sneaky enough. Let's imagine you want a bar graph showing the number of alligators in the swimming pools in your neighborhood. You will have to determine the limits (look at the data). Let's say the worst case was six. OK, we'll set up the printout so the first 30 columns is the pool name, and the last 50 is the bar chart. 50 divided by 6 is 8, so each alligator gets eight spaces on the chart. If the database looks like this:

```
POOLNAME   C   25
GATORS     N   11
```

This routine will print out a bar graph:

```
USE DATABASE
STORE 1 TO LINES
DO WHILE .NOT. EOF
     STORE '' '' TO BAR
     @ LINES,0 SAY POOLNAME
     STORE GATORS TO COUNTER
     DO WHILE COUNTER > 0
          STORE BAR + ''********'' TO BAR
          STORE COUNTER - 1 TO COUNTER
     ENDDO WHILE COUNTER > 0
     @ LINES,30 SAY BAR
     STORE LINES + 1 TO LINES
     SKIP
ENDDO WHILE .NOT. EOF
```

Lookup tables: This is really neat, because you can make the operator input one of a large list of inputs. Let's say you have a regular mailing address file that looks like this:

```
NAME         C     40
ADDRESS      C     40
CITY         C     25
STATE        C      2
ZIP          C      5
```

To edit the state, enter a new database called STATE which looks like this:

```
STATE        C      2
```

Index this file on STATE (let's also call the index file STATE).

Let's say you've gotten all the inputs stored in memory like this:

NAME = MNAME
ADDRESS = MADDRESS
CITY = MCITY
STATE = MSTATE
ZIP = MZIP

(Note: the credit for this naming convention belongs to Fox & Geller)

Now you want to find out if MSTATE is a valid state name. Let's say that you are using the PRIMARY database, but that file STATE has been put in USE on the SECONDARY:

```
USE SECONDARY
LOCATE &MSTATE
STORE # TO POINTER
USE PRIMARY
IF POINTER = 0
     ? ''State name incorrect, retry''
ENDIF
etc.
```

My experience has been that if you have limited disk storage space, the use of lookup tables can really cut down the database size a lot. It would not be difficult in the above example to make the database STATE have to fields: STATE (2 chars) and ENGLISH (full name). Not only has the coding eliminated incorrect spellings, it has kept all those long state names out of the main database.

• • • • • • •

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FOG MEMBER LIBRARY NEWS

Lobo MAX-80 Library Notes

August 1985

by Joel L. Seber

This month's article is going to interest anyone who has gotten Kermit v.3.2 from my last disk submission, or anyone who is interested in telecommunication software: I am submitting Kermit version 4.0 to the library this month. As I have stated earlier, Kermit is used quite a bit in colleges and universities. It is also gaining acceptance from the general microcomputing community. Kermit 4.0 has overlays for several microcomputers, but the version I submit is only for the Lobo MAX-80 computer. I will submit the entire overlay library to FOG as soon as I can, and FOG can get it to the other librarians as they see fit. There are overlays for such machines as the Osborne series, Kaypro, Apple CP/M, and others. A couple of people that I would like to thank is Frank Bush, who got the library to me, and Hal Hostetler, who put together the MAX-80 overlay.

Before the summary of the disks, I would like to acknowledge some mail. I have had further communication with E.C. Weber concerning his MAX; I hope I have answered his earlier questions. Also, Victor McAllister requested that I send a summary of the FOG MAX library to him. Victor, you should have it by the time you read this. If not, please write again. The best way to get a listing of the MAX library is to get the last year or so of ***FOGHORN*** (how's THAT for a plug?) since it has more information than just the summaries. I honestly don't know how FOG handles listings of files in the libraries to members. If you are interested in such, if nothing else send an SASE to FOG with enough postage to cover at least 8-12 pages of material and I will try to get one to you. I am just glad to see that there is some interest started. Please keep those letters coming!

Following is the disk summaries for this month:

-FOG/MAX.013

TOPIC: Kermit Communications Program Version 4.0

Disk #1 of 4:

Kermit 4.0 Documentation and Working Version

This disk contains the documentation and a sample working version of Kermit version 4.0 for the Lobo MAX-80. Kermit is a telecommunications protocol developed at Columbia University. It is in wide use at universities and colleges on several microcomputers and mainframes. This is, as of this writing, the latest version for CP/M 8-bit micros. Overlays for several machines other than the MAX-80 are described in these docs; they will be submitted to FOG separately from this library. Please contact FOG for details.

Along with the documentation, there are two essential programs for the generation of Kermit 4.0: LASM.* is a linking assembler, meant to replace ASM.COM. MLOAD.COM is an intelligent loader which compliments LASM well. These programs are always included in the Kermit package.

Much thanks to Hal Hostetler for the MAX-80 overlay.

-FOG/MAX.014 — .016

TOPIC: Kermit Communications Program Version 4.0

Disks #2-4 of 4:

Kermit 4.0 Source (.ASM) and .HEX files

Disks 14-16 contain the actual source files for Kermit 4.0. Please refer to the documentation contained in FOG/MAX.013 for full details. Please note that only the MAX-80 overlay is included in this set of disks. The overlay library described in the aforementioned documentation will be submitted to FOG separately.

Much thanks to Hal Hostetler for the MAX-80 overlay.

That just about covers it for this month. I am still working on another disk of assorted utilities and possibly some MAX-80 games. Still no submissions, folks . . . I am getting what I can from bulletin boards. If you have a favorite MAX-80 utility, game, application program, anything, please send it to FOG system 1 or 6. It's an easy way to get your name in print, and help the MAX community at the same time.

Until next time, happy computing!

• • • • • • •

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OSBORNE 1

Summarizing WordStar Modifications For WS 2.26 and 3.3, 52 and 80 Column Osbornes

by Peter Morgan

Proofed by Ewald Wuschke Jr.

I'm a professional writer by trade. For the 18 months I had my Ossie One before discovering the existence of the Vancouver, British Columbia, Osborne Club, I put up with the vagaries of a WordStar 2.26 program basically untailored to an Osborne 52 column screen because it was well worth the effort.

When I joined the Group, however, I discovered a member who loaned me his entire set of ***FOGHORN***s. My wife and sons, perhaps for the first time, discovered what it was like to live with a zombie who read for a week solid. Or was it two weeks.

As I read, I made notes about ideas that would solve my WordStar problems. As a result of those lost days, I now have a slick, supercharged program that powers up just the way I want it to do on my 52-column screen. I figured that perhaps I'd pass on, in summary form, the material I learned from past issues, for those who continue to labor with what I now consider a prehistoric version. Much of the codes will work for WordStar 3.3, as well.

First, the new stuff for those already in the know: I've managed to get 'INSERT ON' to show clearly starting at column 41 and to get the LINE SPACE mode to show not only that it's on, but also to display the line space number in the upper right hand corner of the screen, starting at column 50. (An interesting but otherwise useless side effect is that when both line space and insert mode are in effect, and both are displayed on the 52-column screen, the FC-FL-COL/PAGE-LINE-COL display shuffles to the left and the name of the file you're working on disappears to make room for it. It reappears whenever the line space returns to 1.) I've also changed the 'editing no file' line at the top of WordStar's main menu, one of the goofiest phrases I've ever heard, to say 'MORGAN'S WORDSTAR' instead.

To get 'Insert' to show, and Line Space, copy DU-V77.COM from your Ozzie's library and put copies of your WS.COM program (or whatever you now call the WordStar command program), WSOVRLY1.OVR and your INSTALL.COM program on the same disk.

If you haven't yet narrowed the width of the WordStar 'Page' to its narrowest setting of 64, you'll need to do it first.

Power up INSTALL, work your way along its torturous path as described in the WordStar Modifications section of the manual until you get to the question 'Are modifications complete'. Answer **N**. When the computer finishes its display in response, type:

```
WID:↵
```

(↵ is carriage return)

The display should show the location and a value, if it's still 80-columns wide, the value will be hex 50, which is decimal 80. Your cursor should be stopped next to 'NEW VALUE', type:

```
40↵
```

(or 41 or 42, which are the hex equivalents of 64, 65 or 66, respectively)

The actual figure's up to you, you just need to get that page boundary over quite a ways, because WordStar calculates the placement of 'Insert' and Line Space by using that number. (I've got mine set to 66, because it doesn't produce such a complicated screen display when I've got stuff justified for my 65-column printer setting. A margin any narrower than 64 decimal produces an 'Improper Page Boundary' error message when WordStar powers up.)

When the next location request is displayed, type:

```
0 <Zero>
```

then type:

```
Y
```

Once INSTALL returns you to the operating system, it's time to change the WS program in a less clumsy manner. Power up DU-V77. It's command-line ready-mark is a colon. When you get that, type:

```
FWSOVLY1.OVR;D↵
```

That tells DU-V77 to 'F'ind WSOVRLY1.OVR on the index track and 'D'isplay the address numbers of the sectors your computer allocated to the program when it recorded it on the disk. The display will be a batch of numbers in several horizontal lines, with the ASCII equivalents between asterisks on the right, partially off the 52-column screen.

Look to the right, and find the line that says WSOVRLY1.OVR. Go down one line, and go to the far left margin, just before the space that separates the Group Allocation numbers from the DU line numbering system (the lines are numbered by 10s). The first two numbers (hex numbers) is the address of WSOVRLY1.OVR's first sector on the disk. Assuming it is 01 (your's will very likely be different), type:

```
G01;=INSERT\ON;d↵
```

You've told DU to 'G'o to allocation group 01, then read through the groups until it comes to the phrase 'INSERT\ON' (upper or lower case matters, by the way), then stop and 'D'isplay the sector in which the phrase appears.

Note the DU line number in which the phrase appears. Assuming it's 30. Count along that line, counting 1 for every two hex characters, starting with 30, until you get to the two-character hex code for the letter 'I' of the phrase 'INSERT\ON'.

⇨

Just before that, you'll see the hex code '00'; the same code, '00' is just after that. Those null codes mark the boundaries of the character group transmitted to the upper right part of the WordStar Page when the ^V toggle is typed.

Starting with the DU-V77 character number of the first character past the left-hand 00 boundary, (let's assume the DU number is 35), type:

CA35,INS ON<00><00><00> (. . . etc.) **;W;D** ↵

DU will write the ASCII characters 'INS ON' overtop of 'INSERT ON', starting right after the rightmost null, then filling the balance of the original phrase with hex nulls. (It's necessary to type the angle brackets as shown to tell DU to insert hex characters 00 three times, otherwise it would write in Zero Zero Comma, or hex 30 30 39). Then DU re-dumps the now changed display so you can check it was done right. If you missed it, make sure you type the original hex code exactly or WSOVRLY1.OVR may not work right.

Quite handily, 'LINE\SPACE is just below where we were working. Follow the same procedure to replace that phrase with:

LS<00><00><00> (. . . etc.)

When finished, type:

FWS.COM (or whatever you're calling the WordStar command program).

Let's say the first Allocation group is 22, type:

G22;=editing\no\file;D ↵

to find the main menu's so-called title. Change it in the same manner to whatever you want it to read. Overwriting the '\' appears to have no effect. There are also two spaces (hex 20) just in front you can use if you want. I've rewritten mine to read 'MORGAN'S WORDSTAR', which is now proudly displayed above the main menu.

Now then, for modifying WordStar to power up the way you want it. Type 'X' at DU's command line, to exit to CP/M. Then back through INSTALL to the individual modifications section.

WordStar assumes you want the program in its full format mode; you have to turn off any of the formatting functions, such as justified copy, hyphenation on and the like. Personally, I prefer to have all formatting off, and turn it on for formatting all at once when I've finished inputting the copy.

Using the INSTALL command line to turn justification OFF, at power-up, type:

INITWF: ↵ ↵ ↵

— the display should read 398H+0001 — then type:

00 (Zero,Zero) ↵

From this position in the code, to turn Hyphen-help OFF, at power-up, type:

↵ ↵ ↵

— the display should read 398H+0004 — then type:

00 (Zero,Zero) ↵

To turn off that damnable automatic page numbering at the bottom of a print out, so you don't have to remember to turn it off each time you put a # in a <DOT>HE line, type:

ITPOPN: ↵

then type:

FF ↵

To turn the ruler line OFF at power-up, (which appears to be a matter of personal preference, some people like it on, some people don't) *[that's true of all of these variables]*, type:

:0388 ↵

then type:

00 (zero, zero) ↵

To power up the program with INSERT mode in the OFF position, type:

INITOG: ↵

(NOTE: Some versions use ITITOG:.)

then type:

00 (zero, zero) ↵

To power up the program with the right margin set to 52 columns, type:

INITRM: ↵ (or **INITLM:** ↵ to adjust left margin)

then type:

34 ↵ (the hex code for 52)

(NOTE: The 'R' at the end of the ruler line may be displayed by using 30H, instead.)

To power up with page break display OFF, type:

INITWF:

press ↵ until it displays the hex code, +0008

then type:

00 ↵ (zero, zero)

To have the program power up at Help Level 2, type:

0360 ↵

then type:

02 (or 01, if you want Help Level 1)

If your version of WordStar fails to clear a line sometimes when using several ^N or ↵ to push copy down, type:

027B ↵

then type:

04 (zero four) ↵

027E ↵

1B (one B) ↵

027F ↵

54

When you're finished the modifications you want to make, type:

0 (zero)

then, in response to the wrap-up message, type:

Y

You should now have WordStar just the way you *[I]* want it. By the way, I heartily recommend the memory mapped modifications that WSPATCH3.ASM (APP.037 in Library) makes to WordStar. Giving up that nice, conservative low-intensity copy was hard, but I've grown used to the underlining. It's well worth the snappy speed of the display. I've also needed WS-SAVE.COM, also in the library, on several occasions to rescue copy from the occasional fatal errors WordStar hands out. Now, if anybody can figure out how to get that rotten 'REPLACE (Y/N)_' to display somewhere within 52 columns . . . (I tried the DU rewrite method, no joy, it won't move the cursor location.)

● ● ● ● ● ● ●

Osborne External Power Supply Notes

by Ed "Mick" Rankin

The Osborne 1, particularly the tan case model is prone to get too hot. Also many people have power line problems that do funny things to data and programs. Looking at answers to these problems has led me to a conclusion — that by replacing the internal power source with a battery type external source will cure both problems plus give you a chance to recover data and power down in an orderly fashion when the power company does its thing. In practice it isn't that easy. Several things I tried needed to be done differently.

First I measured the ASTEC power supply in the Ozzie to get some base data to work with. Here are my findings for your information:

A. The power supply is the major source of heat inside the case.

B. A good power supply will hold regulation with an input voltage from about 75 to 150 volts AC. It appears that most line trash doesn't make it through the power supply.

C. Measured voltages on 2 ASTEC units showed 4.28 volts with a normal load of 1.72 to 1.81 amps and 11.4 volts with 1.87 amps (drive A running) or 1.65 amps (no drive running). These are measured in my machine which has the J.G. Clock, Drive C, and the Osborne Modem installed. This appears to be consistent data for design purposes.

D. The BATT input on the front has isolating diodes on the +5 and the +12 which means that any voltage input through that connector must take the diode-drop into consideration. In my machine I had to feed 12.5 and 5.9 volts, respectively, in to be assured of getting the same voltages as supplied by the ASTEC power supply.

E. The +5 volts is pretty critical. You must at least have the same voltage as originally supplied or funny things will happen. The +12 volts can vary a good bit, down as low as 10 volts on the board and still function, depending on the disk drives.

With that design, we can proceed. I got a surplus power supply rated at 12 volts 7 amps from Marlin P. Jones (in Florida), then modified it. Any source of voltage that can supply at least 4 amps at close to 13 volts with reasonable good ripple (no more than a few mv) will work. I used either LM138 (5 amps) or LM150 (3 amps) adjustable regulator chips for the 5 volts. For the 12 volts either of 2 approaches can be taken. I was able to jack up the transformer to supply a DC 16 volts under load so I used another LM150 to regulate the +12 at the needed 12.6 volts. The circuit diagram shows the components needed. Be sure and use .01UF bypass capacitors right at the chip regulator. I learned the hard way! If you can't get enough voltage to allow for a chip regulator (you need a 2.5 min. difference in order to regulate) then you can use a 50 watt 12.5 volt zener across the +12 bus with about a 0.1 ohm series resistor for protection. You can add metering or alarm and "crowbar" circuits if you want, they are gravy. Do use fuses!

Now for Power loss protection. Use any 12 volt battery you want. I used a 4 amp-hour Gel-Cell battery I salvaged, which (if in good shape) will give me about 10 minutes of battery time to shut down. A motorcycle or lawn tractor wet cell, or even a "deep-cycle" boat battery will give much more time. The battery should set up so that when the AC switch on the power supply is OFF that the battery is connected to a trickle charger and disconnected from the computer. When the power switch is ON the battery is disconnected from the charger and floated across the +12 volts where it can (as needed) supply 12 volts to the computer and also to the 5 volt regulator. By doing this, at any time that the power is on (i.e. being used to run the computer) if AC power is lost even momentarily, the DC being fed to the computer is instantaneous whether the power supply or the battery is supplying. By operating the Ozzie in this mode you will never have to turn the rear power switch of the computer on or off again (or plug it in to the AC). The power switch on the external power supply controls the computer. Now other plans must be made for printers or other external devices.

There is nothing hard and fast about his design. It was derived empirically. (That means I kept trying ideas and approaches till it worked). So don't be afraid to experiment. Do be reasonably cautious but Ozzie is surprisingly forgiving and tolerant. I managed to cross up the +5 and the +12 volt connections one time and other than a case of messed pants, heart failure and one burned fuse in the power supply no harm was done. Another note, if you can't get a boot initially (the drive light is lit and the drive runs, the screen is green but no magic letters) try raising the +5 volts gently. It usually means that the +5 on the board is just not quite high enough for the chips to work right.

Outside of that, go to it. Good luck. You may well find slightly different voltages and currents needed for your ma-

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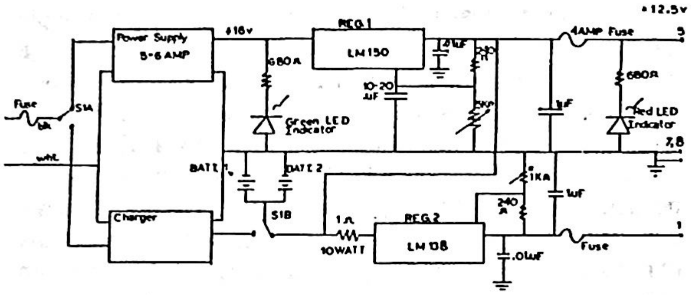
chine. The external power supply can be packaged any number of ways. Whatever you have will work. Do remember that the heat you don't have in your computer is now being dissipated in the power supply. You must use adequate (BIG) heat sinks on the regulators, rectifiers, etc., in the power supply. Make it safe and neat. You could use GE MOV surge suppressors on the AC input and add a switched outlet or two to feed printers, etc.



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Nuevo Double Sided, Double Density Patch For Media Master V1.03

by Glenn Siebert

I recently upgraded my Osborne 1 to double sided double density using the kit from Nuevo Electronics. I was very pleased with the results except that after installation my Media Master program no longer worked. This was a serious handicap to me. However, no solution was available at the time. I tried a copy of Uniform and it would not work either. A call to Media Master proved fruitless: they had no idea why it wouldn't work and they said that there wasn't enough market demand to try and update their program.

Out of necessity I started disassembling the Nuevo ROM, the Nuevo BIOS, and the Media Master COM file until I found out why Media Master wouldn't work on the double sided upgrade (although it worked just fine on the Nuevo single sided upgrade).

The ROM and BIOS turned out to have nothing to do with the problem. In upgrading to double sided the single sided disk controller chip (e.g., WD1793) must be replaced by a double sided type (e.g., WD1797). The new disk controller is similar to the old, but one of the differences causes the problem. Specifically, for the single sided disk controller, the "read sector" command is 1000_0000 (80H) and the "write sector" command is 1010_0000 (A0H). In both of these commands, bit 3 is the culprit. On the single sided controller, bit 3 provides for a software check for correct disk side. This check doesn't actually occur unless it is enabled by a 1 in bit 1 and a 1 in bit 3 (neither of which seem to be used in Media Master, or in the Osborne for that matter). However, bit 3 on the double sided disk controller is used as a sector length flag. Bit 3 must be set to 1 in order to specify the proper sector length in normal usage. The solution, therefore, is to change the byte sent to the disk controller for the read sector command and the byte sent for the write sector command in the Media Master program. These constants occur once each in MM.COM and the following patch will replace the constants with the correct values (88H and A8H) for the double sided upgrade.

Following are instructions for installing the patch to Media Master Version 1.03 for the Osborne 1.

To start, open a new file called MMPATCH.SUB in the non-document mode of WordStar. Type the following:

```
XSUB
DDT MM.COM
S83BD
88
.
S8426
A8
.
GO
SAVE 147 MMDS.COM
```

Type **^KX** (Control KX) to save this file and exit WordStar.

Next put the following files on a system disk in drive A:

```
DDT.COM
XSUB.COM
SUBMIT.COM
MM.COM
```

Finally, make sure that you have at least 40K of unused space on the disk, then type:

```
SUBMIT MMPATCH ↩
```

That's all. The result will be a patched file MMDS.COM on drive A, (the original file will not be changed). MMDS.COM will work on the double sided upgrade exactly the same as MM.COM works on the single sided version.

Note that the patch does not change the limitation of Media Master to single sided disks only. Media Master cannot recognize any double sided disk. To use MMDS.COM I keep it on a disk that is formatted single sided double density with the double sided BIOS on the system tracks (from SYSGEN.COM). With this disk in drive A and the foreign disk in drive B, MMDS.COM permits file transfers. So far I haven't had any problems with this arrangement, although it would be more desirable to have a program that could recognize double sided formats.

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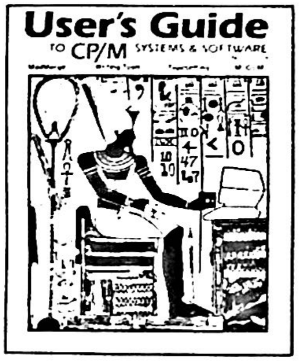

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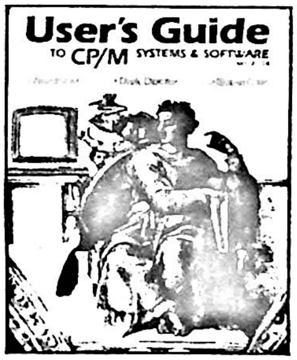

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EXECUTIVE

Windows

by Gordon Wilk

The Osborne Executive, emulating the Televideo 912 terminal, provides a set of commands to define and activate screen windows. The escape sequences to manipulate screen windows are listed, but not discussed, in the Reference Manual. This inadequate documentation is not helped by the typographical errors in the list. Only a study of the ROM monitor source code (in the Technical Manual) and some experimentation can reveal how effective this little used facility can be.

Since, to my knowledge, only the Osborne utilities SETUP, CHARGEN, COPY, and COPYSYS make use of windowing, many programmers may not realize how useful windows are. This article and three program files submitted to the Exec library are an attempt to explain how and why windows may be used.

First a tabulation of the typos in the console command list on pages 449-452 of the Reference Guide:

FUNCTION should be	ASCII	DECIMAL	HEX
START INVERSE	ESC j	27 106	1B 6A
DEFINE WINDOW	ESC z	27 122	1B 7A

The lead in sequence is followed by an ASCII digit.

The example lines in the Manual using dec 119 and 77 hex are incorrect.

There may be 15 windows; the numbering scheme is the same as that used for background type.

FUNCTION should be	ASCII	DECIMAL	HEX
SET WINDOW	ESC s	27 115	1B 73
RETURN NORMAL VIDEO	ESC d	27 100	1B 64
DEFINE BACKGROUND	ESC x	27 120	1b 78

The example lines in the Manual using dec 71 and 47 hex are incorrect.

Some of the functions listed are not intuitively obvious and none are defined. In the interests of clarity, here are some explanations:

Set X/Y Offset:

Cursor row and column numbers in both cursor positioning commands and window definitions are entered with an offset (addition) of decimal 32 (20 hex). This offset may be set to any other value through the "Set X/Y Offset" command. BASIC programmers should set it to 0 since the phrase CHR$(32+10) causes an addition to be performed each time the line is executed. This slows down an already slow interpreter. Assembly language programmers are reminded that '$', decimal 36 is the CP/M string terminator. With an offset of 32 neither row 4 nor column 4 may be accessed without terminating the string at an inappropriate point and causing a particularly mysterious bug. Setting the offset to 0 prevents access to column 36, but at least all rows may be referenced. The other way out, used in the sample programs, is to use BDOS to set the string delimiter to 0 and leave the offset at 32. No command or escape sequence includes an absolute zero.

Newline:

This command causes the monitor to perform a carriage return and line shift. It also seems to throw the cursor position off with subsequent incorrect expansion of tabs. Its use is not advised when TABs may appear.

Key Translate Disable:

This disables the translation of function and arrow keys. After this escape sequence is sent the function (Control + number pad keys) will be read as 80 — 89 hex. The arrow keys will be UP: 8Ah, RIGHT: 8Bh, DOWN: 8Ch, LEFT: 8Dh. A program can then interpret the keys as it sees fit; this is a good way to use the arrow keys regardless of what sort of translation was set with the SETUP utility.

Set Reverse Video and Return Normal Video:

Unlike the Define Background commands, these commands affect only the reverse video attribute, leaving all other background attributes unchanged. "Return Normal Video" cancels the bit only. An error routine, for example, may highlight the offending field and clear it after correction; without knowing or caring whether the field was underlined, dim or normal. Unlike The Begin/End Inverse, this command affects the entire window, not just subsequently written characters.

Begin/End Graphics:

When in effect characters 60 — 7F hex (' — DEL) are converted to the graphics characters 00 — 1F hex which are then output with no further processing. Since these characters are mainly the lower case alphabetics, graphics can be printed from the keyboard or intermixed with upper case letters in a BASIC string.

Begin/End Dim
Begin/End Blink
Begin/End Inverse
Begin/End Underline
Begin/End Alternate Character Set

Begin/End Graphics:

These pairs affect the the background attributes of characters written AFTER issuing the escape sequence. Only the indicated attribute is affected. If the background is reverse and we set Begin Underline, the characters will appear in reverse underline. If the background is changed to normal, the characters already written will appear to change to normal underline. All of these commands should be used in pairs like WordStar print commands for underline and bold. All of them are additive and may be used in combination.

We now can look through the windows themselves. A window is a rectangular area of the screen defined by reference to its top left and bottom right points. Defining a window 'sets' it;

that is the defined window becomes the active window. Once defined, a window may be reset by reference to its number. Fifteen windows may be defined. They are numbered with the ASCII characters: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 : ; < = > ? or the equivalent decimal or hex values. Window zero is reserved and may not be defined. All undefined windows are initially the full screen; window 0 remains the full screen and may be set. When a window is defined or set the cursor is automatically placed in the upper left corner (HOME) of the window. Only one window may be set at a time; defining a window sets it and 'un-sets' the previously set window.

When a window is set, virtually all screen output acts as if the window were the entire screen. The remainder of the screen remains frozen and is not affected by any output to the console screen. HOME places the cursor in the upper left of the window. Clear Screen clears the window. A line feed on the bottom line of the window scrolls text in the window up. Background definitions affect only the area within the window. Writing a character at the right edge of the window causes a carriage return/line feed. Clear To End of Page clears to the end of the window. Cursor positioning commands reference the window rows and columns: 0,0 is the upper left of the window. Column numbers outside the window place the cursor in the first column; row numbers outside the window place the cursor in the last row; coordinates 24,80 refer to the first column of the bottom line in ANY window.

Having opened a window, what can we do with it? The Osborne utilities illustrate two possible uses and there are others.

Menu programs may illustrate the current choice by a reverse video bar moved with the arrow keys. Each choice area on the screen is defined as a window. Pushing an arrow key causes the background (now defined as reverse) to be redefined as normal; then the window covering the next choice area is set and the background defined as reverse video. This appears to be a moving bar. The COPY utilities are good examples.

Data entry programs may have each area from which data will be accepted defined as a window. When the program is ready to accept a particular field, the corresponding window is set and the background defined as underline or reverse dim. This clearly shows the length of the field. Setting a window moves the cursor to the beginning of the window faster than any other means. CHARGEN uses this technique. The program SV submitted to the Exec library demonstrates both this and the 'menu' application. Since setting a window moves the cursor to the set window it is an excellent and smooth way of allowing the arrow keys to move the cursor back and forth among data entry fields. The program SCRNTEST submitted to the Exec library uses this method.

Display programs may approach the windowing facility of 16 bit machines. The screen may be divided in half and different things (files, directories, computations) shown in each window. The program VIEW submitted to the Exec library demonstrates this use.

WordStar-like menus or Pascal-filer command line menus are easy to keep on the screen if they are written to the whole screen and the unused part of the screen is then set as a window. Remember that all areas outside of the active window are frozen in place no matter what sort of scrolling takes place in the window.

Games that have playing area which is not the full screen can define the 'board' as a window. Routines to alter and make moves on the board can then refer to the board co-ordinates without worrying about where on the screen the board is located. Games that read and write the screen directly for speed could use windows to set the background of parts of the screen. This would save code bytes but would be slower than direct means.

How do we go about all this? Practically any language may be used, although BASIC is a slow way of writing screens. Certainly Assembler, C, and Pascal are most suitable. The demonstration programs submitted to the library are in Assembler since that shows the nuts and bolts most clearly.

It is best to begin by setting up symbolic names for each of the screen command sequences. In Assembler this is done with equates:

```
ESC    EQU    27
HOME   EQU    30  etc.
```

which can be collected in a macro library file and included in each program with a MACLIB pseudo-op. The file TERMCAP.LIB submitted to the Exec library can be used.

In C a file of #defines can be #included in each program:

```
#define CURSUP  11
```

etc.

Some Pascal compilers allow character const's to be set to non-printable hex values in a similar manner.

In BASIC, executable lines are needed and it is best to start with string definitions:

```
10      AT$ = CHR$(27)+CHR$(61)
```

etc.

Once the entire series is written as a file it can be copied into each program with an editor; some series of low line numbers should be reserved for it.

The next step in the program should be to define all the windows, writing the initial screen with text strings appended to each definition. In the same function, strings to set each window are also defined. In Assembler this is done with a long series of DB's and a single call to the BDOS print string function; done similarly in other languages. Many actions that we normally think of as executable statements will be accomplished by the print statement and the writing of a string; while thinking of actions requires a novel viewpoint. The order of definitions within the string is as important as the order of statements within a program. As each window is defined it becomes active and its particular background may be set, then the initial text to appear within that window, is printed (remember the cursor will be at the beginning of the window. Moving from a window with one type of background to the next where the background will be different is tricky. If the first window has a reverse background, the second will flash, be-

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fore the new background, which may be normal, is set. One trick is to define a "switch" window exactly one character in size. Then after a window is defined and written, set the "switch window", redefine the background to that wanted in the next window and then define the second window.

Composing strings that define and set windows and define backgrounds is akin to working in a sort of screen assembly language. The order in which things are done is significant. Structuring such code presents questions not usually addressed by structured programming rules. I have found it convenient, and I hope clear, to define all string constructs in one module "-SCRN" and refer to them in PRINT macros as needed. For considerations of speed, I have made the strings as long as possible; it might be clearer to make each string a single function. A language with macro capability could be used to create a pseudo-assembly language so that you could write something like:

```
SETW    1
BG      REVERSE
. . .
```

A few experiments have shown that it leads to long slow code.

When windows are being used for data entry some attention needs to be paid to the appropriate combination of background and cursor type. Since the appearance of combinations of cursor types, characters, and backgrounds is by no means obvious, the program SCRNTEST (Screen Test) has been submitted to the Exec library. This program allows experimentation with various combinations in various size windows.

One line windows, as would be used for data entry present particular problems. A line feed will clear the window as will writing more characters than will fit in the window. Making such windows one character larger than called for, helps. BASIC and Pascal programmers will have to avoid forms of the PRINT or writeln statements that terminate each line with a CR/LF. Assembler programmers will feel at home preceding the text with CR,LF rather than following it with the newline pair. One must also be careful of the use of arrow keys when a one line window is set. CP/M down arrow is a line feed and will clear the window unexpectedly. Either use BDOS function 6 direct I/O and filter out the control characters or disable key translation.

Switching from one window to another can be done using the window number as a variable. If the language used allows arrays of strings, use the window number as an array index:

```
char *SetWindow[15] = { SetW1,SetW2, . . . };
```

then:

```
printf(''%s'',SetWindow[current_window]);
```

In Assembler it is easier to define a single string with a labeled window number:

```
Set$Window:
DB      ESC,SETWNDW
W$Nr    DB      '0'
DB      '$'
```

then:

```
LDA     CurrentWindowNr
ADI     '0'
STA     W$Nr
LXI     D,Set$Window
CALL    PrintString
```

One line windows are useful for highlighting an area on the screen as shown in the SV program. Here the reverse video bars remain in one location since the screen is not scrolled. When the screen scrolls, the background attributes as well as the test move up. Under these conditions, locating an area set to a special attribute, in order to change it back to normal, can be a pain. BROWSE was written to show how this can be done. In BROWSE one line of a directory is highlighted. Arrow keys can move the highlight from one line to another. At the bottom and top of the screen, scrolling takes place. In those cases, we want to leave the highlight at the top or bottom, not move it. The best way seems to be: (1) Set the old highlighted window and change it to normal, (2) Set the whole window and scroll, (3) Set the desired line and highlight it.

Let's look at how a menu type program could work. We will assume the screen has three choices and the window setting strings look like this:

```
Define_Background_Normal, Set_Window_X, Define_Background_Reverse
```

The window number in the Set_Window_X is different in each string. The strings are in an array, SetW[], indexed by the window number. The user can push on the up and down arrow keys to move the reverse bars and then press **RETURN** to signify that the choice has been made. At that point a function, specific to the menu choice, is performed and we go back to the menu.

In no language in particular, the control structure may look like:

```
Do forever Begin
   Current-window = 1;
   while (Current-window < 16) Do
   Begin
        Print(SetW[Current_window])  {set the window - move
                                      the bar}
        GetChoice(Current_window);  {Get next user action}
   EndDo
   Case of Current_window
        16:     Do_function_one;
        17:     Do_function_two;
        . . .
   EndCase;
EndDo;

GetChoice(window)
Case of Inkey
        Control_C:      goto abort;
        UpArrow:        If(window > 1) window = window - 1;
        DnArrow:        If(window< max) window = window + 1;
        CR:             window = window + 15;
EndCase;
Return window;
```

Programs that do different things in each window (like VIEW) have an additional problem. Each function must keep track of where it is in its own operation so the user can leave a window and return where he left off. Similarly each window must keep track of what is going on in that window so that the right function is called when the window is entered. There are a number of ways of doing this.

Knowledge of the current window should be kept on as high a level as possible. If the cursor is always positioned on the last line of the window when it is set and each line written is preceded with a CR/LF we do not have to keep track of the cursor position on entering and leaving a window and the window will scroll neatly. All lower level routines just have to write a line at a time and need not be concerned with where they are writing. This minimizes the number of state variables that must be saved. Still a routine that is writing a file to the screen must know where its buffer and fcb are as well as where it is in the buffer. A directory listing routine must also keep track of where it is in the buffer. We must also keep track of what each window is doing. Each of these variables is called a state variable since together they indicate the state the program is in and allow changing states and reentering functions at will.

If we have only two windows, the obvious way of saving state variables is to swap them into a reserve set of variables each time the window is switched:

```
Switch_window
        temp1 = current_window
        temp2 = current_buffer
        temp3 = current_file
        . . .
        current_window = saved_window
        current_buffer = saved_buffer
        . . .
        saved_window = temp1
        saved_buffer = temp2
        . . .
return;
```

This is the method used in the VIEW program.

If there are more than two windows, the best way is to have a set of variables for each window and pass a pointer to the set which is current. Pascal and C programmers will recognize this as an array of structures. It is nearly impossible in BASIC. Instead a series of parallel arrays can be set, one for each state variable and the index made to correspond to the window number.

Debugging windowed programs can be a problem since 80 columns of debugger output always seems to be written into a one column window. One solution is to redirect debugger output to the printer; another is contained in the BROWSE source. When compiled with DEBUG true and then run under control of SID or ZSID, a passpoint can be simulated anytime keyboard input is requested by BROWSE. SID then displays in the largest window available and variables can be examined.

Is it worth it? Everything that can be done with windows can be done in other ways — WordStar does not use the windowing facility yet it keeps its menus and status line in place. The windowing functions are in the ROM BIOS, every screen write passes through these routines whether or not windows are being used. There is practically no loss in speed when they are being used; writing your own routines to perform these functions is much slower. Since the routines are in ROM the programs that use them can be much shorter and concentrate on higher level functions. The VIEW program maintains two windows and displays directories and files in less than 3K bytes of code and less than 1K bytes of data for a 4K file.

When speed is the main consideration — games and animation -- direct screen I/O should be used. The ROM BIOS were not written for speed and virtually all their functions can be performed faster at the cost of longer code.

This article is written in the hope that it will encourage writing more public domain, Exec programs using windows. After all the members of FOG and the other Osborne user groups are the only ones who are ever going to write Exec specific programs.

A final note: the Osborne documentation says these functions are those of the Televideo 950 terminal. Presumably, the Televideo computers use something like the same functions. If so — and I don't have a Televideo — these ideas would apply to those computers also. The demonstration programs referred to above, however, make use of certain CP/M3 BDOS functions, notably "Set String Delimiter" and "Parse File Name" so they could not run on a CP/M 2.2 machine. They could easily be rewritten. SYSLIB uses zero as a string delimiter and has a file name parser. Calls to those routines could be substituted for the BDOS calls used in the source.

*[Jim Switz (the Executive librarian) says he will be releasing the programs Gordon submitted as part of his next release. Watch **FOG MEMBER LIBRARY NEWS** for specific details.]*

* * *

Executive Drive Search Chain and Some Help from SmartKey II

by Cliff Drumweller

Okay, I've sat on my duff without contributing to FOG for too long. I started on an O-1 and moved up to an Exec. I've been going to the Santa Clara meetings a long time; my number is FOG 2892. Hell, with only using the Osborne disks, lets do it the easy way. Break out the Exec disks Jim Switz has so greatly labored on for us. We are going to use a few.

We're going to set up your drive search for all your drives. Boot up NS (NEW SWEEP 2.05 OR GREATER) and a blank in drive B. Copy NS to drive B. Grab Exec #3 and copy DELBR.COM down to drive B. Now grab Exec #16 and copy CPM+SET6.LBR. Now copy CPM3.SYS from anywhere you have it. Shuffle the disks. The hard part is over.

Take your new disk with the four files on it and stuff it in drive A. Exit NS. At the A> type **DELBR CPM+SET6**. This removes the files from the library. Bring up NS again. Tag

⇨

CPM3.SYS use B to get back to it. Now hit **Y** to change its status, followed by **S** to make it R/W. Rename SETDEFLT.OBJ to SETDEFLT.COM. RENAME NEW SWEEP to NS.COM (it makes life easier). Exit NS.

At the A> type **SETDEFLT** and change anything you feel like, the Menu is self explanatory. I personally use the search chain ***.B**: (no more "where's the Com file?") and the file name you called.

SAVE IT (S)! Boot NS again. Now tag CPM3.SYS, NS, AND SETDEFLT.COM. Then hit **E U N** (Erase the Untagged files and No, don't ask for conformation) and you've just found the fastest way to clean a disk. Boy, can it plant the E5's in the directory fast!

Now stick your CPM #1 disk in B drive, log it and delete CPM3.SYS. Don't fret — it's not your master. Now copy CPM3.SYS over to it. That's all folks.

The next time you use COPYSYS, it will have your new drive chain and whatever on it. Now you have a disk to try all of the options with. Keep it around, you may get a new BIOS and need to do this again without knowing the actual addresses for SID. It works on BIOS 1.2, and only took about 3 minutes because I had SETDEFLT.COM and NS.COM on my BIOS 1.1 disk.

As long as we are playing around with CPM #1 and NS, and you still have it booted, copy MAC.COM and HEX.COM from CPM #3 onto CPM #1. Now get EXEC disk #23 and put EXAUTO.ASM, NS, and VDE-2C.COM (rename it to something like V.COM) onto CPM #1 also. There's plenty of room on the disk; they left us 76K to play with. Now when you get a program you like, you can fix it to cold boot right up from the old CPM #1 disk.

COPYSYS it, copy EXAUTO.ASM down to drive B. Use V.COM to edit the line near the bottom of EXAUTO where it says 'WS'. Replace with your new 'filename' (those quotes are important). Then use MAC and HEXCOM on it (i.e. MAC B:EXAUTO. then HEXCOM B:EXAUTO). Then rename it with NS. Now you only have to cart around CPM #1 to initiate a new disk. Mine lives in the pocket of my Wiz. Hope this helps somebody. If YOU have an easier way tell it to the ***FOGHORN***.

It is now one week later and I have purchased SmartKey II. It is, simply, a great program, if you do a lot of repetitive typing. I bought it originally for writing my command files in dBASE. I now have the ability to redefine my whole keyboard with their supershift key. Let me explain a little.

You set up one seldom used key that works like a control or shift key. The key can have long strings of characters, for instance I have my letterhead, complete with name of business, address, city, state, zip, and phone number, by hitting the supershift key and the L (for letterhead) including centering:

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That was done in one keystroke. As I said before, I bought it mainly for writing command files in dBASE; it works great since there are no function keys in dBASE on an Exec.

You can save your own definition files and call them up as you change programs. My letterhead is in a file called WS.DEF. You can also add and delete from these files without having to go through a large rewriting process. You can even call up a definition file with SmartKey at the A>.

Now another hint using good old EXAUTO.ASM. In the quotes mine says: 'SK WS WS'. The spaces are necessary for the file control block to know where the end of the first .COM file ends and the next begins. Translated, it boots the renamed SmartKey II (SK.COM) and its definition file WS.DEF and then brings up WordStar.

* * * * * * *

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The Forth Interest Group is a worldwide non-profit members-supported organization with over 5,000 members. Its 75 chapters are devoted to the Forth computer language. FIG membership of $20.00/year ($33.00 foreign) includes a subscription to ***FORTH Dimensions***, a bi-monthly publication. FIG also offers its members product discounts, health insurance, an on-line database, a job registry, and a large selection of Forth literature. For additional information and a free Reference Card call the FIG HOT LINE (408) 277-0668 or write FIG, P.O. Box 8231, San Jose, CA 95155.

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Osborne Computer Corporation
Expands International Distribution

Fremont, CA, June 19 — Osborne Computer Corp. announced today it has signed an agreement with Basic Computer of Vienna, Austria, for exclusive distribution of the entire Osborne product line in Austria. "Strong sales through our network of international distributors is a cornerstone in our corporate strategy, and we continue to strengthen our position," said Osborne president Ronald J. Brown.

Basic Computer sold over $5 million in computer systems and accessories last year, including the Sinclair product line, as well as a complete range of monitors, printers, modems, disks and standard and custom software packages.

Basic Computer will market Osborne products through 15 dealers in Austria. Managing Director Ernst-Peter Lagler cited the fact that Osborne Computer has tailor-made system software, hardware, and documentation for his country. Osborne has been successful overseas because it provides 12 different "native-language systems" for sale through its extensive International distribution network.

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Decision on whether or not to discontinue the FOG t-shirts will depend on members' interest. These T-shirts are soft blue in color with the FOG logo in black and are Hanes 100% cotton. They are cut large to allow for shrinkage. Sizes currently available are small (34-36) and medium (38-40). We are out of stock on the large and X-large sizes. The price is $7.50 each for members and $10.00 each for non-members. In either case, shipping is included.

The FOG Disk Library Directory ($5.00 including shipping) lists the disks which have been released by the librarians. The directory has a description of the files on each disk. Updates of the directory will be announced in the **FOG MEMBER LIBRARY NEWS** section.

As long as possible, we will continue the practice of distributing update sheets to those members who send in a stamped 9" by 12" manila envelope with the correct postage affixed. We will not attempt, however, to maintain records on who has received update pages. When updates are announced, only the current set of update pages will be sent. **Do not send envelopes in until a release has been announced.**

In September of each year we release a compilation of all issues of a previous volume. "Best of Volume 1" ($5.00 including shipping) was released in 1984. This 54 page issue carries all the articles of volume one and has no advertising. "Best of Volume 2" will be released in September, 1985. Price will be announced at that time.

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There is currently about 260 disks in the library. If you cannot obtain a copy through your local group or RCP/M, you may order directly from the FOG office. Your order **must** specify which **disk** you want. We cannot fill special requests for specific programs. The price of the disks is $4.00 per disk for less than ten disks and $3.00 for ten or more. The price includes shipping. Including a note as to which computer you own will speed shipping of your order.

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Computer systems owned or used by members include the Osborne 1 (single and double density), the Osborne Executive, all models of the Morrow MicroDecision, the Zorba, all models of the KayPro, the Televideo, the Micromate, the Lobo Max, the Osborne Vixen, and many others. Special interest groups being organized to augment a network of local group meetings include dBASE II, ham radio, Personal Pearl, etc.

Dues in FOG are $24.00 per year. This entitles each member to a copy of the ***FOGHORN*** each month as well as access to the disk library and the RBBS-RCP/M network systems. Local group meetings are open to the public without charge although access to the disk library is restricted to the membership. The FOG Disk Library contains only software copyrighted for the public domain. Piracy (the copying of proprietary software) is strongly condemned.

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